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SPENBOROUGH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

No. 18

For the Year

1937

SPENBOROUGH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

With Compliments from the
Medical Officer of Health
and School Medical Officer

Health Offices
Valley Road
Liversedge

SPENBOROUGH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

No. 18

For the Year
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Spenborough Urban District Council

1937-38

Mr. G. BLACKBURN - *Chairman*

Mr. A. STOTT - *Vice-Chairman*

Mr. J. R. ABBOTT	Mr. G. W. HAYES
Mr. F. ALDRIDGE	Mr. N. HOWARTH
Mr. G. H. BATES	Mr. F. POWELL
Mr. J. J. BROOKE	Mr. E. SAXTON
Mr. F. A. BROWN	Mr. G. M. SHARP
Mr. E. CROSSLAND	Mr. T. W. SHAW
Mr. E. CROWTHER	Mr. F. T. SOBEY
Mr. W. DOVE	Miss SUCKSMITH
Mr. E. B. ELLIS	Mr. W. E. TETLEY
Mr. G. T. ELLISON	Mr. J. D. TETLOW
Mr. H. S. ELLISON	Mr. H. THORNTON
Mr. T. W. FENTON	Mrs. WADDINGTON
Mr. F. FIRTH	Mr. R. WHITEHEAD
Mr. R. M. GRYLLS	Mrs. L. WHITELEY



Health Committee and Maternity and Child Welfare Committee

Councillor H. THORNTON	-	<i>Chairman</i>
Councillor J. J. BROOKE	-	<i>Vice-Chairman</i>
Councillor BLACKBURN		Councillor TETLEY
Councillor SHARP		Councillor TETLOW
Councillor SHAW		Councillor WADDINGTON
Councillor STOTT		Councillor WHITEHEAD
Councillor SUCKSMITH		Councillor WHITELEY

Slum Clearance Committee

Councillor W. T. SHAW	-	<i>Chairman</i>
Councillor ALDRIDGE		Councillor FENTON
Councillor BLACKBURN		Councillor HOWARTH
Councillor CROWTHER		Councillor SHARP
Councillor DOVE		Councillor THORNTON
Councillor G. T. ELLISON		Councillor WHITEHEAD
Councillor WHITELEY		
<i>Co-opted on Child Welfare Committee</i> - Mrs. H. S. ATKINSON		

Representatives on Hospital Boards

LIVERSEDGE and MIRFIELD—

Councillors BLACKBURN, CROSSLAND, HOWARTH, SAXTON
and STOTT

NORTH BIERLEY—

Councillors BLACKBURN (*ex-officio*), BROOKE and
WADDINGTON

OAKWELL—

Councillors POWELL and WHITEHEAD

Staff of Health Department

LAWRENCE PICKERING-PICK, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
 Medical Officer of Health
 School Medical Officer
 Medical Officer to Child Welfare Centre
 Medical Superintendent to Liversedge and Mirfield Isolation
 Hospital

A. L. MITCHELL, M.B., CH.B.
 Deputy Medical Officer of Health

† CLARA MURRAY WILSON, M.B., CH.M.
 Medical Officer to Anti-Natal Centre

† F. W. MARSDEN, C.R.S.I.	-	Chief Sanitary Inspector
† C. CLARK, C.R.S.I.	-	Assistant Sanitary Inspector
† E. HARRIS, C.R.S.I.	-	Assistant Sanitary Inspector
a † H. RAYNER, C.R.S.I.	-	Assistant Sanitary Inspector
b † Miss E. BARLOW, S.R.N., S.C.M.	-	Health Visitor
† Miss E. M. FIRTH, S.R.N., S.C.M.		Health Visitor
† Miss P. HOLMES, S.R.N., S.C.M.	-	Health Visitor
c † Miss A. KELLETT, S.R.N., S.C.M.	-	Health Visitor
† Miss E. M. MCLEOD, S.R.N., S.C.M.	-	Health Visitor
d † Miss F. WILLIAMS, S.R.N., S.C.M.	-	Health Visitor
Miss M. FURNESS	-	Chief Clerk
e W. THORNTON	-	Correspondence Clerk
Miss M. ALDRIDGE	-	Junior Clerk

† Part Time a Appointed June, 1937 b Appointed June, 1937
 c Appointed July, 1937 d Retired March, 1937
 e Appointed November, 1937
 † Holds Certificate for Meat Inspection

SPENBOROUGH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health, 1937.

*To the Chairman and Members
of the Health Committee.*

Gentlemen—

I HAVE the honour to present to you my
Eighteenth Annual Report of the Sanitary
Conditions of the Urban District of Spenborough
for the year 1937.

This report will be an ordinary report, and
will refer mainly to matters connected with the
year 1937 only.

I desire to express my thanks to Mr. F. W.
Marsden, Chief Sanitary Inspector, for his
assistance in drawing up certain portions of this
report.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

LAWRENCE PICKERING-PICK.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The following are some of the more important Statistical Details, most of which will be dealt with more fully later in the report.

Area: Cleckheaton, 1,756 acres; Liversedge, 2,136 acres; Gomersal, 1,100 acres.

Added Areas: Birkenshaw, 924 acres; Hunsworth, 1,381 acres; Hartshead, 863 acres.

Total Area of the Urban District of Spenborough, 8,160 acres.

Population—Census 1931: Spenborough, 30,963; Birkenshaw, 2,816; Hunsworth, 1,319; Hartshead, 931. Total, 36,029. Estimated population for mid 1937, 36,440.

Number of Inhabited Houses in 1931, 8,817.

Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1937, from rate books), 11,627.

Number of Families—Census 1931: Spenborough, 8,852; Birkenshaw, 813; Hunsworth, 403; Hartshead, not known. Total for Urban District, excluding Hartshead, 10,068.

Rateable Value: April 1st, 1937, £164,780.

Product of Penny Rate, £590.

Chief Industries: Textiles, Chemicals, Wiredrawing, and a large number of smaller industries.

Unemployment increased considerably during 1937, the position in December being worse than at any time during the previous five years. The industries most affected were Textile, Worsted and Carpet trades, and to a less extent Wiredrawing.

Live Births: Total, 409; male 217, females 192.

Illegitimates: Total, 12; males 4, females 8.

Still Births: Total, 16. Rate per 1000 births, 39.

Birth Rate: 11.2.

Deaths: Total, 502; males 250, females 252.

Death Rate: 13.8.

Percentage of Deaths in Public Institutions, 29.5.

Number of women dying in or as the result of Childbirth: From Sepsis, nil; from other causes, 5.

Deaths of Infants under 1 year, 38. Rate per 1000 births, 93.

Legitimate, 37. Rate per 1000 births, 93. Illegitimate, 1. Rates, 83.

Deaths from Whooping Cough, 3; from Diarrhœa, 7.

Deaths from Cancer, 79, equal to 15.7 of total deaths and 2.1 per 1000 of population.

POPULATION

The population of the original Urban District of Spenborough at the Census, 1931, was returned as 30,963. The population of Birkenshaw was 2,816, of Hunsworth 1,319, and of the Hartshead Parish of the late Halifax Rural District 931.

The Registrar-General's estimate of the population of the enlarged Urban District of Spenborough for the middle of 1937 is 36,440, and this figure is used throughout this report in calculating rates.

ENLARGEMENT OF THE DISTRICT

On the first of April, 1937, the two Urban Districts of Birkenshaw and Hunsworth and the Parish of Hartshead in the former Rural District of Halifax were incorporated in the Urban District of Spenborough.

This raised the population of the District from 29,570 to 36,440, an increase of twenty-three per cent., and the area from 4,992 acres to 8,160 acres, an increase of 63 per cent.

The density of population before Amalgamation took place was 5.92 persons per acre but has fallen now to 4.46 persons per acre, a reduction of nearly ten per cent. The increase in the size of the area has not only resulted in a very considerable increase of work in the department, which, of course, was to be expected, but also to an increase in the time taken to carry it out.

It was found necessary to appoint a third Assistant Sanitary Inspector and a fifth Health Visitor. The office staff has also been increased.

BIRTHS

During 1937 343 births were registered in the district, 181 being males and 162 females. Of these nineteen births occurred in Hunsworth and thirteen in Birkenshaw during the first three months of the year before the amalgamation of the districts took place.

In addition sixty-six births took place in hospitals and nursing homes outside the district, giving a nett total of 409 births, 217 being males and 192 females.

The birth-rate was 11.2 per 1000 compared with 12.6 in 1936.

There were twelve illegitimate births, a decrease of five in the previous year. Four of them were boys and eight girls.

There were sixteen still births, of which two were illegitimate.

The birth-rate in Spenborough continues to be very low. The rate of 11.2 is 3.7 less than that for the whole country, 3.7 less than that for the large towns; 4.1 less than that for the smaller towns, and 2.1 less than that for London.

It must be noted that there is a very large discrepancy between the births registered in the district and found from other sources, and these supplied by the Registrar-General. It has been found impossible to trace these extra births and consequently the various rates have been calculated on local figures. The birth rates calculated from the Registrar-General's returns is 13.8.

Table I. shows the Wards in which children whose births were registered in the district were born.

TABLE I.

	Males.	Females.
Roberttown and Norristhorpe... ..	18	23
Cleckheaton East	20	8
Cleckheaton West... ..	25	23
Gomersal	21	33
Hightown and Hartshead	20	21
Millbridge	13	17
Oakenshaw and Hunsworth	13	10
Scholes	12	7
Spen and Littleton	16	14
Birkenshaw	23	14

DEATHS

The number of deaths registered in the district in 1937 was 346. From this must be deducted four deaths of persons resident outside the district who died within its boundaries, and to them must be added 160 deaths of residents who died elsewhere.

This gives the number of nett deaths as 502, equal to a rate of 13.8 per 1000, compared with 14.4 in 1936, and an average of 12.3 per 1000 for the five years 1932 to 1936.

Fourteen deaths occurred from Influenza compared with four in the previous year.

One hundred and forty-nine deaths occurred from diseases of the heart and blood vessels, and forty-two from disease of the respiratory system (excluding tuberculosis), while thirty-two people died from apoplexy and degeneration of the brain.

The mortality from malignant disease (cancer) was 2.17 per 1000 living, there having been 79 deaths from this disease.

62.9 per cent. of the total deaths occurred from the above-mentioned groups of causes, a rather lower percentage than in the previous year.

No death occurred during the year from Small Pox, Enteric Fever, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, or Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis.

Of the total deaths five occurred in Birkenshaw and ten in Hunsworth before amalgamation of their districts took place.

DEATHS FROM ZYMOTIC DISEASES

Ten deaths occurred from the chief Zymotic Diseases. Three were from Whooping Cough and seven from Enteritis in children under two years of age.

INQUESTS

Thirty-two deaths during the year were the subject of Coroners Inquests. This accounted for 6.3 per cent. of the total deaths.

The ages of persons on whom inquests were held were as follows:—

Under 1 year	1
1 to 5 years	1
5 to 15 years	1
15 to 25 years	1
25 to 45 years	6
45 to 65 years	14
Over 65 years	8

The causes of death of persons on whom inquests were held were:—

Suicide—

Cut Throat	1
Coal Gas	1
Hanging... ..	1

Other Forms of Violence—

By Motor Vehicles	8	
On Railway	1	
Crushing	1	
Fall	1	
Total Deaths by Violence	—	16
Circulatory Diseases	12	
Respiratory Diseases	2	
Silicosis and Tuberculosis	1	
Gastro Enteritis	1	
Total	—	32

Table II.

**CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT DEATH,
DURING THE YEAR, 1937.**

Causes of Death	Net deaths at the subjoined ages of Residents whether occurring within or without the district										Registrar General's Returns		
	All Ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 5 years	5 and under 15 years	15 and under 25 years	25 and under 45 years	45 and under 65 years	Over 65 years	Males	Females	Deaths in Institutions	Males	Females
Whooping Cough	3	1	2							3			3
Influenza	14					1	5	8	5	9		5	9
Respiratory Tuberculosis ..	16		1		6	4	4	1	10	6	6	10	5
Other forms of Tuberculosis...	2		2							2	2		2
Gen. Paralysis of the Insane	1						1		1			1	0
Cancer	79				1	7	21	50	33	46	16	34	45
Diabetes	9					2	3	4	4	5	4	3	7
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	31						11	20	12	19	7	12	19
Heart Disease	119		1			7	23	88	62	57	22	62	57
Other Cardiac Disease	30						8	22	14	16	5	14	14
Bronchitis	12	1					3	8	5	7	1	5	7
Pneumonia	27	3	4	1	1	4	7	7	18	9	10	18	10
Other Respiratory Disease ...	3	1				1	1	1	1	2	1	1	2
Peptic Ulcer	4					1	1	2	3	1	2	3	1
Diarrhœa (under 2)	7	6	1						4	3	7	4	3
Appendicitis	1							1	1		1	1	
Cirrhosis of Liver	2						1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Other Disease of Liver ..	3					1	2		1	2	3	1	2
Other Digestive Disease ...	10	1	1			1	4	3	6	4	5	6	4
Nephritis, Acute and Chronic	18				1	1	6	10	8	10	3	8	10
Non Septic Puerperal Causes	5					5				5	5		5
Congenital Debility	24	24							15	9	12	15	9
Senility	22							22	6	16	7	6	16
Suicide	3						3		2	1	1	2	1
Other Deaths from Violence	13		2	1	1	5	3	1	7	6	7	7	6
Other Defined Causes	43	1		2		8	12	20	31	12	20	31	11
Ill Defined Causes	1							1		1			1
TOTALS	502	38	14	4	10	48	118	270	250	252	148	250	250

Table III. VITAL STATISTICS OF THE WHOLE DISTRICT FOR 1932-37

YEAR	Population estimated to middle of each year	Births		Total Deaths registered in the District		Transferable Deaths of Non-residents registered in the district	Transferable Deaths of Residents not registered in the district	Net Deaths belonging to the district					
		Births		Total Deaths registered in the District				Under one year		At all Ages			
								Number	Rate	Number	Rate per 1000 Births	Number	Rate
1932	31250	379	12.1	308	9.9	7	96	27	71.2	397	12.7		
1933	30490	396	13.0	300	9.8	12	109	15	37.8	397	13.0		
1934	30270	338	11.2	307	10.1	13	103	16	47.4	397	12.7		
1935	30000	378	12.6	305	10.1	9	73	15	39.0	369	12.3		
1936	29570	374	12.6	320	10.8	8	115	26	70.0	427	14.4		
1937	36440	409	11.2	346	9.5	4	160	36	92.9	502	13.8		
Area of District in acres (Land and Inland Water) ... 8160													
Total Population at all ages (Census 1921) ... 36029													
Estimated Population by Registrar General (Mid. 1937) ... 36449													
Number of Inhabited Houses ... 11627													

Table IV.—BIRTH RATES, DEATH RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY, MATERNAL DEATH RATES, and CASE RATES for certain Infectious Diseases in the year 1937
England and Wales, London, 125 Great Towns and 148 Smaller Towns
(Provisional Figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns)

	Birth Rate per 1,000 Total Population		ANNUAL DEATH RATE per 1000 POPULATION										Notifications						Rate per 1000 Live Births	
	Live	Still	All Causes	Typhoid and Para-typhoid Fever	Small-pox	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Influenza	Violence	Small-pox	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Enteric Fever	Erysipelas	Pneumonia	Total Deaths under One Year	Diarrhoea and Enteritis under Two Years	
England and Wales...	14.9	0.60	12.4	0.00	—	0.02	0.01	0.05	0.07	0.45	0.54	—	2.33	1.49	0.05	0.57	1.36	58	5.8	
122 County Boroughs and Great Towns including London...	14.9	0.67	12.5	0.01	—	0.03	0.01	0.04	0.08	0.39	0.45	—	2.56	1.81	0.06	0.43	1.58	62	7.9	
143 Smaller Towns (Estimated Resident Populations, 20,000 to 50,000 at 1931 C).	15.3	0.64	11.9	0.00	—	0.02	0.01	0.04	0.05	0.42	0.42	—	2.42	1.38	0.04	0.34	1.20	55	3.2	
London ..	13.3	0.54	12.3	0.00	—	0.01	0.01	0.03	0.05	0.38	0.51	—	2.09	1.95	0.05	0.44	1.18	60	12.	
Spensorborough ...	11.2	.44	13.8	0.00	—	0.00	0.00	0.08	0.00	0.38	0.44	—	1.78	.58	0.00	0.14	1.01	93	17.1	

The maternal mortality rates for England and Wales are as follows:— per 1,000 Total Births

Puerperal Sepsis	.94	Others	2.17	Total	3.11
For Spensorborough	Nil		12.2		12.2

Table II. shows the causes of and ages at death during the year 1937. It will be seen that there are slight differences between the figures furnished by the Registrar-General, and those obtained from the local registrars and the transferable death slips, but these differences are not enough to affect the mortality rate.

The deaths during 1937 are not comparable with those of previous years owing to the considerable increase in the size of the district which took place on April 1st. The total number of deaths was 502, but of these five occurred in Birkenshaw and ten in Hunsworth during the first quarter of the year before amalgamation. The Death-Rate for the whole district was rather lower than in the previous year but above the average for the previous five years to about the same extent: 10.3 per cent. of the deaths occurred in children of under 5 and 53.8 per cent. in persons of over 65, compared with 8.6 per cent. and 51 per cent. respectively in 1936. Thus the increased mortality at the extreme of life noted in my report for last year continues to even a greater extent. There were fourteen deaths between the ages of five and twenty-five compared with only four last year.

As usual Heart Disease was the commonest form of deaths, there having been 119 deaths from this group of diseases. In addition there were 30 deaths from other diseases of the circulatory system. Thus 29.6 of the deaths were due to these causes compared with 30.5 in the previous year.

The deaths from Cerebral Hæmorrhage (Apoplexy) showed a very considerable decline. Only thirty-one persons died from this cause in the enlarged area in 1937 compared with 49 in the smaller district in the previous year. The percentages of deaths from this cause of the total in the two years were 6.1 and 11.4 respectively. There were fourteen deaths from Influenza compared with four in the previous year and ten in 1935. These occurred during the extensive epidemic in the early months of the year.

There were considerably fewer deaths from Bronchitis, but those from Pneumonia nearly doubled, a large number of babies and young children having died from these causes. Altogether the percentage of deaths from Respiratory Diseases was 6.3 compared with 9.3 during the previous twelve months.

Deaths from Tuberculosis numbered eighteen, and in all but two the Respiratory System was affected. The mortality per 1000 from this disease was .5 while in 1936 it was .4.

Five deaths occurred during the year in Childbirth. This is a most disappointing record especially in view of the fact that during the previous seven years only eight such deaths had occurred. It is, however, satisfactory to state that none of these deaths were due to Sepsis.

79 deaths were due to Malignant Disease. This gives a mortality rate of 2.1 per 1000 living compared with 1.8 in 1936, and an average of 1.7 for the ten years 1927 to 1936.

There were sixteen deaths from violence compared with 19 in the smaller district in the previous year. Of these three were suicides, one less than 1936.

The death-rate of 13.8 per 1000 is 1.4 higher than than for England and Wales, 1.3 higher than that for the large towns, 1.9 per 1000 higher than that for the smaller towns, of which Spenborough is one, and 1.5 higher than the London death-rate.

Table III. gives the births, deaths and infantile mortality for 1937 and the five preceding years, and Table IV. a comparison of vital statistics for the whole country, 128 large towns, 148 smaller towns, and London.

Table VI. gives the vital statistics for the district for each quarter of the year.

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE

The infantile mortality rate is disappointingly high. Thirty-eight babies died before reaching their first birthday and the rate was 93 per 1000 births, a much higher figure than for many years past.

As is usually the case the majority of these deaths occurred during the first month, actually 63 per cent. and all but two were due to pre-natal causes. There were six deaths from Gastro-Enteritis, a most unusual number, for Spenborough is usually very free from this disease, many years having passed without a single death from it.

Twenty of the deaths, over half the total, occurred in the first week. The last quarter of the year was by far the most fatal period for babies, fifteen of the deaths happening during this period.

The neonatal death rate was 59, and that for those babies surviving the first months was 37.

Table V. gives the causes of and ages at deaths of these cases.

Table V. CAUSES OF INFANTILE MORTALITY.

Causes of Death	1 day & under	2 to 7 days	8 to 14 days	15 to 21 days	22 to 28 days	In first month	2 to 3 months	4 to 6 months	7 to 9 months	9 to 12 months	In first year	In 1st Quarter	In 2nd Quarter	In 3rd Quarter	In 4th Quarter
Prematurity ...	7	3	1			11					11	2	2	2	5
Cerebral Hæmorrhage ...		3				3					3		2	1	5
Atalectasis ...	2	1		1		2					2	1	2		1
Congenital Heart Disease		1			1	2					2				2
Congenital Malformations		1				2	2				4			3	1
Other Congenital Causes...	1	1				2	3	2			2		2	1	2
Gastro-Enteritis ...					1	1					6		1		3
Whooping Cough ...							1	1			1		1		
Bronchitis ...							1				1			1	
Broncho-Pneumonia							1	1	1		3	3			
Pink Disease ...											1	1			
Asphyxia ..		1				1					1	1			
Pyelonephritis ...								1			1				1
TOTALS ...	10	10	1	1	2	24	7	5	2		38	8	7	8	15

Table VI.
QUARTERLY SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS.

	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
Births Registered in District	66	95	95	95
Males	33	52	46	50
Females	33	43	49	45
*Rate per 1000 living per annum	8·8	10·4	10·4	10·4
Deaths Registered in District	96	73	67	96
Males	48	34	33	50
Females	48	39	34	46
Corrected Deaths	144	116	100	137
Corrected Death Rate... ..	15·8	12·7	10·9	14·9
Deaths under 1 year	8	6	9	16
Rate per 1000 Population	·87	·65	·98	1·75
*Rate per 1000 Births	121	63	95	168
*Still Births	1	2	—	2
Ages at Death—1 to 5 years	2	3	2	6
5 to 15 years	2	1	1	0
15 to 25 years	1	6	3	1
25 to 45 years	12	12	10	13
45 to 65 years	33	24	22	37
Over 65 years	87	64	55	66
Deaths from Zymotic Diseases... ..	—	2	—	1
Rate per 1000 Population	—	·06	—	·03

* Not corrected for Births registered outside the district.

MIDWIVES ACT, 1936.

The West Riding County Council, as the local supervising authority under the various Midwives Act, delegated the duties of carrying out the provisions of the Midwives' Act, 1936, to the Spensborough Urban District Council as a Welfare Council.

The duties of the Council are confined strictly to carrying out the provisions of this Act, the County Council still remaining the authority for supervising the professional duties of the midwives.

Five midwives were appointed for the Spensborough Area, namely, one for each hundred expected births. This appeared to me at the time rather in excess of the probable requirements of the district, but it is too early yet to be definite on this matter.

Three of the midwives appointed were already practising in Spensborough, one had been practising in Birkenshaw which had recently become part of the Urban District, and the fifth, though living in the area, had been employed outside its boundaries.

The Act on the whole has worked well. I was afraid that there might be trouble from expectant mothers not being able always to have the particular midwife they wanted, but actually there has been very little trouble in this direction.

The main difficulty in working the Act is the considerable size and scattered population of the district coupled with the fact that there are an odd number of midwives. This latter prevents pairing for deputy duties which is decidedly inconvenient, and the size of the district entails very long journeys for the midwives, especially when they are deputising for another.

In my view the travelling allowance of £10 per annum fixed by the County Council is utterly inadequate in a district such as Spenborough. The scheme came into force in Spenborough on July 1, 1937, and from that date till the end of the year the midwives attended 110' cases as midwives and 24 as maternity nurses.

NURSING IN THE HOME.

No alterations have taken place during the year in respect to Home Nursing, and the arrangements in force, which are managed by Voluntary Associations, continue to be satisfactory.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Bacteriological Examinations are carried out at Wakefield, and any chemical analyses are carried out by Richardson & Juffe, Bradford. No samples of food were sent, as this work is carried out by the County (see Water and Sale of Foodstuffs).

Thirty-five specimens of various kinds were sent to the County Laboratory at Wakefield for bacteriological examination. The following are details of specimens submitted:—

	Positive.	Negative.
Hair for Ringworm Spores	0	5
Swabs for Diphtheria	10	15
Sputum for Tubercle	11	0

ACTS AND ORDERS IN FORCE.

The following Acts and Orders are in force in the District:—

1. The Baths and Wash-houses Acts, 1846 to 1899.
2. Infectious Disease Prevention Act, 1890.

3. The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890.
(Parts 2, 3 and 5).
4. The Private Street Works Act, 1892.
5. Notifications of Births Act, 1907.
6. The Museums and Gymnasiums Act, 1891.
7. The Shops Acts, 1904-1920.
8. The North Bierley Joint Hospital Orders, 1888 to 1916.
9. Liversedge and Mirfield Joint Hospital Orders, 1894-1896, 1916.
10. Oakwell Joint Hospital Orders, 1896 to 1916.
11. The Cleckheaton Gas Act, 1869.
12. The Cleckheaton Local Board Act, 1870.
13. The Cleckheaton Gas Orders, 1888, 1909, 1913.
14. The Cleckheaton Electric Lighting Provisional Order 1900.
15. The Cleckheaton Urban District Council Act, 1914.
16. Order under Gas (Standard of Calorific Powers) Act, 1916.
17. The County of the West Riding of Yorkshire (Spenborough Urban District), Confirmation Order, 1915.
18. The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, Sections 15 to 33 in Part II., Sections 34 to 38, 43 to 47, 49 to 51 in Part III.; all Sections in Parts IV., V., VI., VIII. and IX.
19. Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919.
20. Heckmondwike and Liversedge Gas Companies Acts.
21. Gomersal Gas Companies Acts.
22. Spenborough Urban District Council Gas Order, 1921.
23. Spenborough (Offensive Trades) Confirmation Order, 1922.
24. Spenborough Butchers' Shops Closing Order, 1924.
25. Public Health Act, 1925.
26. Public Libraries Acts, 1892 to 1919.
27. Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act, 1889, extended to Chicken Pox, by Order, 1929.
28. Cleckheaton and Liversedge Electric Lighting Orders (Amendment). Special Order, 1930.
29. Yorkshire (Woollen District) Transport Act, 1931.
30. Spenborough (Water Charges) Recision Order, 1932.

BYE-LAWS IN FORCE IN THE DISTRICT

1. New Streets and Buildings, 1927.
2. Cemeteries, 1916.
3. Common Lodging Houses, 1916.
4. Public Baths, 1916.
5. Mortuary, 1916.
6. Public Wash-houses, 1916.
7. School Attendance, 1916.
8. Employment of Children and Street Trading, 1920.
9. Market, 1916.
10. Houses Let in Lodgings, 1916.
11. Nuisances, 1916.
12. Hackney Carriages, 1917.
13. Slaughter Houses, 1917.
14. Offensive Trades, 1923.
15. Pleasure Grounds, 1923.
16. Public Slaughter House, 1926.
17. Smoke Abatement, 1928.
18. Wireless Apparatus, 1930.

HOSPITALS.

No alterations have taken place during the year in Hospitals, either in or serving the area. Full details of this service were given in my report for 1930.

Much use is made of the Voluntary Hospitals in the adjoining large towns. Over one-fourth of the total deaths allocated to the area occurred in Public Institutions, and though there appears to be no very great difficulty in obtaining beds for urgent cases, it seems as if there is a need for a small General Hospital in Spenborough.

SPECIAL DEPARTMENTS.

X-Ray work is carried out by the various hospitals serving the district.

There is a special Dental Hospital in Leeds.

There is a special hospital for Diseases of the Eye and Ear at Bradford, and also special departments for these cases at the general hospitals.

Massage.—The Ellison (Orthopædic) Clinic undertakes massage at the request of practitioners in the area.

The Registration of Nursing Homes Act (1927) is administered by the County Council.

TABLE VII.

The following Table gives details of the cases admitted to the three Isolation Hospitals serving the district during 1937:—

Remaining on December 31st, 1936—

	North Bierley. Crossley. Oakwell.			All Hospitals.
Searlet Fever	2	0	3	5
Days in 1936	17	0	132	149
Days in 1937	36	0	141	177
Total Days	53	0	273	326
Diphtheria	0	0	0	0
Days in 1936	0	0	0	0
Days in 1937	0	0	0	0
Total Days	0	0	0	0
Admitted and Discharged in 1937—				
Searlet Fever	13	19	14	46
Days	468	457	633	1558
Diphtheria	3	7	4	14
Days	77	138	132	347
Remaining on December 31st, 1937—				
Scarlet Fever	3	1	10	14
Days in 1937	28	17	275	320
Days in 1938	116	11	187	314
Total Days	144	28	462	634
Diphtheria	0	2	4	6
Days in 1937	0	21	49	70
Days in 1938	0	29	178	207
Total Days	0	50	227	277
Total Days in 1937 .	609	633	1230	2472
Scarlet Fever	532	474	1049	2055
Diphtheria	77	159	181	417
Average stay in Hospital—				
Days	25.3	23.2	49.5	37.
Scarlet Fever... ..	36.9	24.2	50.7	38.8
Diphtheria	25.7	20.9	44.9	31.2

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

There were five Maternal Deaths during the year, a greater number than for several years past. The last time there were as many maternal deaths was in 1925, but, whereas in that year three of the deaths were due to Sepsis, all the five in 1937 were due to other causes. Three deaths were due to Eclampsia and one each to Placenta Prævia and Accidental Hæmorrhage.

During the last eight years there have been thirteen maternal deaths out of 3,040 births, giving a maternal mortality rate of 14.2 per 1000 births. Of the thirteen deaths two were due definitely to non-puerperal causes and two only to Sepsis. Thus the maternal rate from Sepsis was only .66 per 1000 births, a gratifying low figure. In spite of this year's record I think these figures speak well for the practise of Midwifery in Spenborough.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

Maternity and Child Welfare—

Valley Road, Liversedge, Tuesday afternoon.

Methodist School-room, Birkenshaw, Tuesday
afternoon.

Methodist School-room, Roberttown, 3rd Thursday
afternoon.

Temperance Hall, Scholes, 2nd Thursday afternoon.

Ante-Natal—

Valley Road, Liversedge, Monday and Thursday
afternoon.

Methodist School-room, Birkenshaw, 1st and 3rd
Wednesday afternoon.

School Clinic—

General, Wednesday afternoon.

Ophthalmics, Thursday afternoon.

Orthopædics—

(Voluntary)

Ellison Clinic, Cleckheaton, Daily.

Tuberculosis Dispensary—

W.R.C.C.

Public Buildings, Liversedge, Friday mornings.

Venereal Disease—

At Neighbouring Hospitals.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Notification of Births Act, 1907.

Three hundred and forty-five births were registered in the district in 1937, the net births being 409. The difference is due to the fact that a considerable number of Spenborough women go into nursing homes outside the district for their confinement. The abnormal cases admitted to Leeds Maternity Hospital under the scheme which has been in existence for some years are increasing in number and, of course, are not registered in the district.

Notification is on the whole prompt, only fifteen cases during the year being late.

The births were notified as follows:—

	Within 36 hours	Later
By Doctors	87	5
Midwives... ..	243	10
M.O.H., Heck'wike		12
Other Districts		22
Birth Returns		12
Still Births		9

Four hundred and thirty-two "First Month" visits were paid to newly-born babies, and 2,512 subsequent visits to babies under one year old, making a total of 2,944 visits. The average number of visits paid to children of over one year was over seven.

2,368 visits were paid to children of over one year who had not yet gone to school, and of these ninety-one were found to have some defect needing attention. These were referred either to the Child Welfare Centre or their own doctor.

The following Table shows the method of feeding at the various ages:—

METHODS OF FEEDING.

	New Births	2 Mths	4 Mths	7 Mths	12 Mths
Breast only	362	276	219	160	8
Breast and Cow's Milk	4	25	19	10	—
Breast and Dried Milk	11	9	18	9	6
Breast and other Food	7	4	11	72	60
Cows' Milk only	22	49	79	76	10
Dried Milk only	18	104	150	163	65
Milk and other Food	1	5	5	127	556
Condensed Milk ...	2	8	10	20	—
Patent Foods	4	12	17	24	7
Other Foods	1		2	4	113

BREAST FEEDING.

Ninety per cent. of the new-born babies were found to be breast fed at the health visitor's first visit, but the percentage fell to a little over fifty in the fourth month, and by the seventh month the percentage was forty. Comparing these figures with those for the previous year, rather more babies were breast fed to begin with, but a much larger number were weaned before the end of the fourth month.

At twelve months nearly all babies had been weaned, only about 2 per cent. being still breast fed.

CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.

Considerable changes have taken place during the year with regard to the Child Welfare Centres. When, on April 1st, 1937 Birkenshaw U. D. was added to Spenborough, a child welfare centre was one of the activities taken over. This centre had been in existence for some years, and had been managed by an enthusiastic group of voluntary workers. The centre was open on Tuesday afternoon, the same day as that at Liversedge, and it was not thought desirable to alter the day, and therefore, Dr. Murray Wilson, who had been in charge of the Ante-Natal Centre for the past six or seven years, was put in charge of the Birkenshaw Child Welfare Centre.

This centre has proved itself of great value to the Gomersal mothers, especially those at the northern end of that area. It had been felt for some time that some arrangement should be made in this connection for Roberttown and Norristhorpe, and when Hartshead was added to Spenborough the matter could not be delayed longer. Accordingly, arrangements were made for a centre to be held in Roberttown and this was opened in June and was an immediate success.

The following Table gives the attendances both of babies of under one year and of toddlers at the four Centres.

	Babies.	Pre School.	Total.
Birkenshaw	1722	873	2595
Liversedge	1703	414	2117
Roberttown	128	39	167
Scholes... ..	154	98	252
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals	3707	1424	5131

One rather curious fact is apparent from this record and that is the very large variation in the number of toddlers who attend the various centres. At Liversedge and Roberttown the percentages of the total attendances were 19.5 and 23.4 respectively, while at Birkenshaw and Scholes the percentages were 33.6 and 38.9.

The only explanation seems to be the question of distance. Certainly parents have a much less average distance to travel when going to the Birkenshaw centre than is the case with Liversedge, and Scholes is a fairly compact village. Attempts have been made during the year to increase the attendance of toddlers but without much success.

The centres have been open regularly during the year. The main centres at Liversedge and Birkenshaw were open each Tuesday afternoon except Easter Tuesday and Whit-Tuesday and the Tuesday in holiday week. The Roberttown centre was open on the third Thursday in each month from June onward, and the Scholes centre on the second Thursday in each month except September. The average attendances were—at Birkenshaw 53, at Liversedge 43, at Roberttown 24, and at Scholes 23.

The attendances of babies of under one year were 9.2 for each live birth, compared with 7.3 in 1936 and 7 in 1935.

Seven hundred and sixteen children attended the centres during the year, and at the end of the year 294 were still under twelve months old and 422 were over twelve months.

320 babies under a year attended the centres for the first time during the year.

The Voluntary Committee continues to prove an indispensable adjunct to the centre. Members of the Committee attend at each session and help in looking after the babies, providing tea and demonstrating articles of clothing. The Committee organised a Christmas party for the children who had attended the centre during the year and their parents. This little function was a great success, and was attended by the Chairman and several members of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee. It is hoped that this may be repeated next year.

HEALTH VISITING.

All babies are visited during the first month, and at least four subsequent visits are paid during the first year. In cases where it appears necessary extra visits are paid. In all, 2,944 visits were paid to babies of under one year, which gives an average of over 7 visits per child.

After a child reaches the age of one year these visits are still continued, though at considerably longer intervals, until the child goes to school, usually during his fifth year, though many are sent immediately on reaching their third birthday. Two thousand, three hundred and sixty-eight visits were paid to these children during the year. The Child Welfare Centre is open to these older children, and, in my opinion, the arrangements in force are quite adequate to deal with their needs.

CHILDREN'S ACT.—Part I.

Immediately information is received of a child who comes under this Act, the house is visited, particulars are obtained of the foster parents, number of inmates, evidences of overcrowding, and of general sanitary conditions of the premises. There are but few of these children in Spenborough, only twelve having come to my notice since the duties under the Act were transferred to Local Authorities. In no case has there been any fault to find with the conditions under which these children were living.

ORTHOPÆDIC WORK.

Great help is given to the centre by the Spenborough Cripples' League, which is held at the Ellison Clinic, Cleckheaton. This is a Society managed by a voluntary committee and under the care of Mr. James Phillips, of Bradford. Cases showing bone deformities due to rickets are sent to the Ellison Clinic for treatment with most excellent results. Six of such cases were sent during the year.

There are no special arrangements in the district for dealing with unmarried mothers and illegitimate infants, but they are invited to come to the Centre where special supervision is exercised.

I have again to place on record my appreciation and thanks for the work done by the Ladies' Voluntary Committee in connection with the work of the Child Welfare Centre. Their work has contributed largely to the success of the centre. Members of the Committee attend each time the centre is open both at Valley Road and Scholes.

SUPPLY OF DRIED MILK.

Dried milk is supplied to those who attend the centres if they require it at cost price, or free, in necessitous cases.

6,670 lbs. of dried milk was disposed of during the year, an increase of 2,639lbs. compared with 1936. This increase was in the main caused by the increase in the size of the Urban District. 1,772 lbs. or 26.5 per cent. was given free in necessitous cases. This compares very favourably with 37 per cent. in 1936 and 50 per cent. in 1935.

ANTE-NATAL CENTRES.

The work of this department, under the supervision of Dr. C. Murray Wilson has increased in a truly astonishing manner during the past eighteen months. In

1935 126 women or 34 per cent. of all expectant mothers attended the Ante-Natal Centres which was in session one afternoon a week. Towards the end of the summer of 1936 the number of those attending begun to increase rapidly. At the beginning of 1937 it was found necessary to put on an extra session each month to relieve the congestion.

In April, when Birkenshaw was included in Spensborough it was decided to form an Ante-Natal Centre on the same afternoon as the Baby Clinics, as there had not, up till then, been any Ante-Natal work in Birkenshaw, and it was thought such an arrangement would be satisfactory at any rate for a year or two.

It was soon evident that this arrangement was completely inadequate and consequently two afternoons a month were set apart for Ante-Natal Clinics in Birkenshaw. In the meantime the numbers kept on growing at Liversedge and in the summer it was found necessary to put on a second session each week. Consequently, while two years ago four sessions a month were found quite adequate, it is now necessary to have ten. During 1937 289 expectant mothers attended the centres and made 1,132 attendances.

The number of births in the district during the year was 434, including still births. Thus 66.4 per cent. of the expectant mothers attended the centre. As several of the practitioners in the district prefer to attend their own patients for ante-natal care the percentage of all expectant mothers who received ante-natal supervision cannot be far short of eighty.

TABLE VIII.

Year.	Attendances.	Expectant Mothers.	Average Attendance.	Cases per 100 Live Births.
1925	... 20	... 18	... 1.0	... 4.7
1926	... 71	... 35	... 2.0	... 7.7
1927	... 116	... 45	... 2.6	... 10.4
1928	... 251	... 93	... 2.7	... 21.2
1929	... 325	... 114	... 2.8	... 25.8
1930	... 436	... 155	... 2.8	... 37.5
1931	... 393	... 114	... 3.4	... 28.8
1932	... 357	... 99	... 3.6	... 26.1
1933	... 434	... 117	... 3.7	... 29.5
1934	... 402	... 103	... 3.7	... 33.4
1935	... 500	... 126	... 4.0	... 34.0
1936	... 605	... 147	... 4.1	... 41.
1937	... 1132	... 289	... 3.9	... 70.7

I append Dr. C. Murray Wilson's report to me on the work of the Centre:—

To Dr. Pickering Pick.

I have much pleasure in reporting a remarkable increase during 1937 in the number of women attending the Ante-Natal Clinics, no less than 289 out of 434 pregnancies, i.e., 66.4 per cent.

A new Clinic was opened in Birkenshaw in April, 1937. For a few months this was worked in conjunction with the Child Welfare Centre, but, as the average number of attendances of expectant mothers increased, it was found impossible to continue. It is now held on the first and third Wednesday afternoons of the month.

It was also found necessary during the year to grant a second day during the week—Monday afternoon—at Liversedge, to cope with the numbers there, as the waiting room was not large enough to accommodate them, and the wait for examination was so long that several of them left the Clinic.

It is much to be regretted that there were two deaths in the series.

One was due to eclampsia in a patient who failed to attend after $7\frac{1}{2}$ months. A high blood pressure with no kidney involvement was reported from the Clinic at the time.

The second was a patient who went to the Leeds Maternity Hospital for a Caesarian Section for placenta praevia. She died the day after the operation from hæmorrhage.

There were six still births,—three due to toxæmias of pregnancy in spite of treatment, one due to premature birth, one in a breech presentation in a multipara, one in a breech presentation after an attempt at version at the Leeds Maternity Hospital.

There were 43 post-natal examinations made during 1937. I should very much like to see an increase in the number of mothers availing themselves of this opportunity.

I am most grateful for the co-operation of the medical men and midwives of the district without whom the work of the Clinic would be hampered.

I should like to take this opportunity, not only on my own behalf, but also on that of all the women attending the Clinics, of thanking the members of the Ladies Voluntary Committees for their untiring work in selling garments and providing teas.

(Signed) C. MURRAY WILSON, M.B.

HOME HELPS.

I had always felt that, however necessary and useful a scheme of Home Helps might be in some areas, Spenborough was not one of them, and consequently no attempt had been made up till 1937 to put such a scheme into force. It was, however, decided in the early part of the year to make arrangements for a scheme of Home Helps to be at the service of those who needed them. The results were much as I expected.

Six women were interviewed as prospective home helps, but when they found what the duties were three of them refused to consider the matter further. Arrangements were accordingly made with the other three and later in the year a fourth was appointed.

Altogether from September to the end of the year nine expectant mothers applied for the services of Home Helps and of these six subsequently withdrew their application leaving three cases in which the services of the Home Helps were utilised. Of these three, only one confinement actually took place in 1937.

Things may improve in the working of this scheme in the future when it becomes better known, but I am doubtful if it is really directed in Spenborough or if it ever will prove a success.

SPECIALIST MATERNITY SERVICE.

For some years arrangements have been in force, first with St. Luke's Hospital, Bradford, and latterly with the Leeds Maternity Hospital for the reception of abnormal cases at the time of their confinement. Arrangements have also been in force for several years with a Leeds Obstetrician to be on call in cases of Puerperal Septicæmia.

During the year these arrangements have been very materially extended and Spenborough has now a fairly complete Emergency Maternity Service. The arrangements in force are as follows.

Practitioners in the area can call on Obstetricians for consultation during pregnancy or labour.

Arrangements have been concluded with the Leeds Maternity Hospital for consultations and beds for patients suffering from abnormal conditions in the antenatal, natal, and post-natal periods.

An Emergency Unit at the Leeds Maternity Hospital is on call in any case where removal to hospital is considered dangerous by the doctor in attendance.

Arrangements have been made with the Heckmondwike Maternity Home and are in process of being made with the County Hospital at Staincliffe for beds for normal cases where the home conditions are unsuitable for a confinement.

A scheme of Home Helps (see above) is in operation.

This is a fairly comprehensive scheme and should ensure the best possible care for all women in their confinement.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The main Sewage Works for the area are situated at The Bottoms, Heckmondwike, and deals with the bulk of the sewage of the districts. These works are at present undergoing extensive alterations in order to modernise them and make them more suitable to the needs of the district. It is hoped to give a full report of the new works when completed in a future report.

There are certain small works in the area dealing with localities unsuitable for draining into the main works. These are situated in Clough Lane and Hare Park Lane in the Hightown area, and there is also a small works at Gomersal.

Added Areas.

The Birkenshaw sewage is dealt with at works on the Bradford Road, Birkenshaw.

The Hunsworth sewage is in the main dealt with at the chief works at The Bottoms, with the exception of East Bierley, where there is land irrigation. All the sewage in Hartshead is dealt with by land irrigation.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

The Closet accommodation in this district is as follows:—

No. of	1936	1937
Houses in the district (including house shops)	9101	11876
Water Closets	5254	7222
Waste Water Closets... ..	489	518
Privies	1142	1335
Wet Ashpits	836	923
Open Ashpits	51	58
Dry Ashpits	728	730
Dustbins	4228	5222
Pail Closets	63	71

During the year under review 42 privies were converted to water closets, and 7 water closets were put in as extra accommodation.

The following Table shows a comparison of the types of sanitary conveniences in the district in 1920, 1930 and 1937.

There was a considerable improvement in the ten years 1920 to 1930, but since then the rate of progress has been considerably slowed up, chiefly owing to pressure of other work.

It is hoped, however, that within the next three or four years that it will be possible to entirely eliminate all privies and pail closets where a sewer and water supply is available and thus remove a very serious blot on the sanitary conditions of the district.

	1920	1930	1937
Number of Houses	7860	8802	11876
Water Closets	2221	4572	7222
Waste Water Closets	614	522	518
Privies	2001	1487	1335
Pail Closets	90	72	71
Proportion of Water Closets to Houses	28.2p.c.	51.6p.c.	60.8p.c.
Proportion of Privies and Pail Closets to Houses	26.6p.c.	17.8p.c.	11.8p.c.

Comparing 1937 with 1920 there has been an increase of 115.6 p.c. in the number of water closets and a decrease of 55.6 p.c. in the number of privies and pail closets.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1937.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

During the year under review the area has been considerably increased which shows an increased number of loads collected. The number of tips where refuse is deposited is increased by four. A scheme for the collection of clean waste paper was commenced in October and handbills were distributed to householders requesting co-operation. It is hoped that the public will respond, thereby helping to reduce the cleansing costs.

The following Table gives some details of the collection and disposal service;—

Manner of Disposal.	Loads.
To Cleckheaton Destructor Works (Controlled)	2817
„ Quaker Lane, Playing Fields Tip (Controlled)	4240
„ Nibshaw Lane Tip, Gomersal (Controlled) ...	887
„ Dymond Tip, Liversedge (Controlled)	4692
„ Hightown Road Tip (Controlled)	358
„ Birkenshaw Tip	1276
„ Raikes Lane Tip, Hunsworth... ..	678
„ Hartshead Tip	296
„ Cheerbarrows Pit Shaft	174
„ Hunsworth Tip	476
„ Farmers for manurial purposes	805
Trade Refuse brought to Destructor by Tradesmen	660
Total	17359

RECEPTACLES, ETC., CLEANSED DURING THE YEAR.

Dustbins	292,005
Ashpits... ..	24,567
Cesspools	76
Pail closets	48,100

COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL COSTINGS, PER LOAD.

	1935.	1936.	1937.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Controlled Tipping.....	0 9	0 7 $\frac{3}{4}$	0 7 $\frac{1}{3}$
Destructor (Incineration)	3 7 $\frac{3}{4}$	3 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 3
Collection	5 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	6 2 $\frac{3}{4}$	6 3 $\frac{1}{2}$
Disposal (all methods) ...	1 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 2 $\frac{1}{2}$

COMBINED COST OF COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL SERVICE.

1935.	1936.	1937.
6s. 9 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per load.	7s. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per load.	7s. 4d. per load.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT

The following is a summary of the inspections carried out under the Public Health Acts and other Acts relating to Sanitary matters:—

Visits to premises generally	8523
„ Public Abattoir and Slaughterhouses	2246
„ Bakehouses... ..	124
„ Dairies and Cowsheds	543
„ Factories and Workshops	194
„ Cases of Infectious Disease	111
„ Offensive Trades	207
„ Premises under Public Health Acts...	1482
„ Houses under Housing Acts	1815
„ Van Dwellings	7
Drain Tests	52
Informal Written Notices	350
Informal Written Notices complied with... ..	313
Statutory Notices	2
Statutory Notices complied with	2
New drainage work constructed during the year	1089yds

DISINFECTION.

The following number of rooms were disinfected during the year:—

For Scarlet Fever	80
Diphtheria	30
Other Diseases... ..	25
Total	135

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

The following is a detailed list of the Offensive Trades carried on within the district:—

Soap Boilers	1
Tripe Boilers... ..	1
Fish Friers... ..	54
Rag and Bone Dealers	1
Gut Scrapers	1
Total	58

OUTWORKERS.

There is one outworker in the district, the premises having been visited and found to be satisfactory.

SMOKE OBSERVATIONS.

Nil	117
One minute and under	60
Over one minute and under three	67
Three minutes to five	39
Over five minutes	9
	<hr/>
Total	292
	<hr/>

One works in the district was a serious offender. Considerable alterations in the plant were carried out. Further alterations are in progress and it is hoped when completed there will be a great improvement in the smoke emission.

SWIMMING BATHS.

There is one Swimming Bath in Spenborough under the direction of the District Council.

It is 75 feet in length with a depth of 6 feet 6 inches.

There is a continuous circulation of water through a Bell's Filter Plant where it is also aerated and chlorinated with gas. Alum, Sulphate and Soda Ash are used as precipitants.

The water is dealt with at the rate of about ten thousand gallons per hour, the whole being circulated and treated in about five hours.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

- (1) 20 houses were reported as being infested with bed bugs during the year. None of these were Council houses, and steps were taken to deinfest all of them.
- (2) Deinfestation of inhabited houses was carried out by means of Cynese Candles.
- (3) The belongings of persons removed from houses condemned under the Housing Act, 1936, and rehoused in Council Houses were in all cases fumigated by Hydrocyanic Acid Gas. This refers only to furniture. All bedding was disinfected by steam before being removed to the new houses.
- (4) The work of deinfestation was carried out by a contractor.
- (5) Verbal advice is given to all persons removed to new premises to keep in close watch for the insects and to report any appearance to the Health Department at once.

BAKEHOUSES.

There are 24 bakehouses in the district and they have been regularly inspected and found to be satisfactory. Any infringements of requirements were brought to the notice of the proprietor and the matter remedied.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

	Inspections.	Written Notices.
Factories	51	1
Workshops	267	2
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	318	3
	<hr/>	<hr/>

DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS UNDER FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS ACT AND PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.

	Found.	Abated.
Want of Cleanliness	6	6
Insufficient Sanitary Accommodation	1	1
Unsuitable or Defective „	2	2
Other Nuisances	5	5
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	14	14
	<hr/>	<hr/>

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

The following Table shows the number of Slaughterhouses in the district:—

Public Slaughterhouses... ..	1
Registered Private Slaughterhouses	13
Licensed Slaughterhouses... ..	4
	<hr/>
Total	18
	<hr/>

SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS, PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1875.

Defective Ashpits, Doors, Etc.	20
Privies Abolished	42
Dustbins Renewed	89
Sink Waste Pipes Repaired or Cleared	15
Eaves, Gutters and Fall Pipes Repaired or Renewed	60

New Gullies Fixed	3
Defective Drains Reconstructed... ..	22
Drains Cleared of Obstruction	64
Defective W.C.'s and Water Pipe Fittings Repaired	50
Verminous Houses Cleansed	20
Nuisances from Keeping of Animals	2
Offensive Accumulations Removed	9
Manure Pits Cleared	3
Dirty Food Premises Cleaned	18
Dirty Condition of Utensils in Food Premises	5
Sewers Cleared	1
Ventilating Shafts Repaired	6
Nuisances from Burning Refuse	2
Yard Paving Repaired	4
Well Cover Repaired	1

SHOP ACTS, 1912 to 1934.

During the year under review 736 visits were made in connection with the provisions of the above Acts.

The following improvements were effected under the Shops Act, 1934.

Closet Accommodation Improved	1
Washing Accommodation... ..	3
Heating Improved	2

HOUSING STATISTICS.

1—Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year.

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	490
(b) Number of Inspections made for the purpose	947
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under subhead (1) above), which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	196
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	215
(3) Number of dwellings found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	—
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to above) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	481

2—Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices.	
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	420
3—Action under Statutory Powers during the year.	
a. Proceedings under Sections 17, 18 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1930	—
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	4
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice	4
(a) By owners	4
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	—
b. Proceedings under Public Health Acts.	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	—
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after the service of formal notices.	—
(a) By owners... ..	—
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	—
c. Proceedings under Sections 19 and 21 of the Housing Act, 1930.	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which demolition orders were made ...	—
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	—
d. Proceedings under Section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930.	
(1) Number of separate tenements of underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	—
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	—

4—Housing Act, 1935. Overcrowding.

(a) Number of Dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	920
(x) Number of Families therein	920
(x) Number of Persons dwelling therein	4690
(b) Number of New Cases of Overcrowding reported during the year	151
(c) Number of Cases of Overcrowding relieved during the year	—
Number of Persons concerned in such cases	—
(d) Particulars of any Cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of the overcrowding	—
(e) Any other particulars with regard to overcrowded conditions	—

F. W. MARSDEN,

Sanitary Inspector.

IMPROVEMENTS AND REPAIRS CARRIED OUT UNDER HOUSING ACTS

EXTERNAL—

Eaves, Gutters and Fall Pipes Repaired or Fixed	12
Roofs Repaired	52
Waste Pipes Repaired	4
Outer Doors Repaired or Replaced	15
External Walls Repaired and Repointed	56
Chimney Stacks and Pots Repaired	10
Yard Paving and Entrance Steps Repaired	46

LIVING ROOMS—

Floors Repaired	45
Waste Pipes and Taps Repaired... ..	20
Fireplaces and Ranges Repaired	46
Window Frames, Sashcords, Repaired or Renewed	20
Dampness Remedied	25
New Sinks Provided	88
Ventilation Improved	1

BEDROOMS—

Dampness Remedied	15
Plasterwork Repaired	12
Floors Repaired	25
Windows Repaired or Renewed	16
Ventilation Improved	12
Fireplaces Repaired	6
Handrails Repaired	6

SCULLERIES—

Dampness Remedied	1
Windows Repaired	2
Floors Repaired	2

CELLARS—

Doors Repaired	26
Water Removed from	8
Window Frames Repaired or Renewed	6
Floors Repaired	47
Ventilation Improved	1
Food Stores Provided	5

MILK SUPPLY.

The inspection of dairies and cowsheds during the year under review has been regularly carried out and 543 visits were made and, generally speaking, the cleanliness has been satisfactory.

In a few instances, offences against the provisions of the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926 were noticed, and the attention of the offenders was drawn to the matter, resulting in improved conditions.

The periodical inspection of the milk herds by the County Veterinary Service resulted in the detection of cases of Tuberculosis, such animals being slaughtered under the provisions of the Tuberculosis Order, 1915.

Registration Figures:—

Registered Cowkeepers	108
Registered Producers (Retail)	104
Registered Producers (Wholesale) ...	4
Registered Retailers (not Producers) ...	26
Approximate Number of Milk Cows ...	1,200

MILK (Special Designations) ORDER, 1923-36.

During the year under review there has been an increase in the applications for licences under the above order, and the figures below show the number of farms producing milk of the standard required by the orders.

Tuberculin Tested	2
Accredited	10

Registered Retailers of Special Designated Milk apart from above producers:—

Tuberculin Tested	4
Accredited	1
Pasteurised	3

MEAT INSPECTION.

The following figures and Tables show the work carried out under this important branch of your Inspector's work:—

	Public Abattoir	Private Slaughterhouses.
Carcases Inspected		
Beasts	2,455	1,324
Sheep	4,942	2,147
Pigs	2,426	1,795
Calves	68	33
Totals	10,091	5,299

Meat Surrendered and Destroyed:—

	Private.							
	Public Abattoir.				Slaughterhouses.			
	T.	C.	Q.	L.	T.	C.	Q.	L.
Tuberculosis	4	11	0	2	4	13	3	13
Other Diseases	1	5	1	12	1	10	1	27
Totals	5	16	1	14	6	4	1	12

Total from Public Abattoir and Private Slaughterhouses:

12 Tons. 0 Cwts. 2 Qrs. 26 Lbs.

TUBERCULOSIS FOUND IN BEASTS AND PIGS. PUBLIC ABATTOIR—

Detailed Report of Tuberculosis found in Beasts and Pigs:—

	No. Inspected.	No. Affected.
Beasts	2455	312
Pigs	2426	168

TABLE A

Birkenshaw, Hunsworth,
Hartshead and Clifton.

Houses with permitted numbers of :—

No. in family	1½	2	2½	3	4	4½	5	5½	6	6½	7	7½	8	8½	9	9½	10	10½	11	11½	12	12½	13	13½	Totals
1	1	2	22	12	7	3	9		10		1	12	1		1		1								82
1½			1		1																				2
2	3	2	68	45	46	7	68	3	69	5	12	81	27	1	4		1								442
2½			25	17	13	3	29	3	39	4	6	29	7		2	1			1						179
3			36	20		7	47	1	72	1	7	59	25	4	5	4	2		2	1					293
3½			5	5	10	2	15		15	1	4	14	6			3							1		81
4			18	7	23	2	27	1	19	2	1	22	27	1		8			1	3			2		164
4½			6	4	2		6	1	10			5	7												41
5			10	2	6		11	1	9		5	13	12	1		4	3	1	2						80
5½			3	2	1		5		1			3	4												19
6			1		2	2	10		3			5	8			2	1					1	1		36
6½			2		2		2						2				1								9
7					1		4		1		1	3	2		1	1	1								15
7½			1				2					2							1						6
8			1						1																2
8½									1				1												2
9													2												2
9½																									
10																									
11																									
11½																									
12½																									
13½																									
O	3		83	20	14	2	23		3				3												151
Totals	4	4	199	114	114	26	235	10	250	13	37	248	131	7	13	23	10	1	7	4		1	4		1455

O Total Overcrowded.

Number of Cases:—	Beasts.	Pigs.
Calling for Total Condemnation	6	7
Calling for part Condemnation of Carcases	4	2
Calling for Condemnation of Organs only	302	159

PRIVATE SLAUGHTERHOUSES—

Detailed report of Tuberculosis found in Beasts and Pigs.

	No. Inspected.	No. Affected.
Beasts	1324	112
Pigs	1795	123
Number of Cases:—		
Calling for Total Condemnation	14	5
Calling for part Condemnation of Carcases	6	3
Calling for Condemnation of Organs only	92	115

HOUSING ACT, 1936.

Some progress has been made under the "Slum Clearance" sections of the Housing Act, 1936.

At the beginning of August a survey was made of the Birkenshaw area which had been incorporated in Spenborough as from April 1st.

It was found that the following houses were so defective as to be unfit to be used as dwelling-houses.

- (a) 17 houses in Low Fold, Bradford Road, Birkenshaw. Six of these houses were vacant and the other eleven housed 58 persons.
- (b) 10 houses in Speight Square, Old Lane, Birkenshaw. Five of these houses were vacant and the other five housed 11 persons.
- (c) 2 houses in Furness Lane, Bradford Road, Birkenshaw. These two houses housed seven persons.
- (d) 2 houses in Prospect Lane, Birkenshaw. These two houses housed seven persons.
- (e) The old Conservative Club, Bradford Road, Birkenshaw. There were 3 inmates in this house.

It was decided to deal with these houses by individual demolition orders. An appeal was received in respect of the houses in Prospect Lane, the owner promising to carry out any alterations or repairs necessary. After careful consideration of the suggested improvements the order was withheld until the work was completed. Considerable alterations and repairs were carried out to this property with the result that it was very materially improved and the demolition order was withdrawn.

This left nineteen families to be re-housed, and it was decided that they should be removed to a small Housing Estate in The Bottoms, Birkenshaw. This Estate consists of 31 three-bedroom houses.

Seven of the families obtained accommodation elsewhere leaving twelve families to be rehoused. The removals took place in October, all household effects being deinfested with hydrogen cyanide.

The above-mentioned Housing Estate is to be extended by the addition of houses of the following types.

- 1 To accommodate 10—5 bedrooms.
- 2 To accommodate 9—4 bedrooms.
- 6 To accommodate 8—4 bedrooms.
- 6 To accommodate 6—3 bedrooms.
- 5 To accommodate 5—3 bedrooms.

During the year houses have been in course of erection at the Laverhills Estate, Hightown, for the re-housing of families displaced from proposed Clearance Areas in Liversedge.

These houses, sixty-four in all, are of the following types:—

- 10 houses—Type A1—1 bedroom.
- 16 houses—Type A2—2 bedrooms.
- 30 houses—Type A3—3 bedrooms.
- 8 houses—Type A4—4 bedrooms.

In the summer Clearance Orders were made in respect of nine areas, as follows:—

1. 688 to 698 (even numbers), Halifax Road, Hightown
—16 occupants.
2. 217 to 223 (odd numbers), Halifax Road, Hightown
10 occupants.
3. 54 to 78 (even numbers), Knowler Hill.
1 to 11 (odd numbers), Tatton Street.
2 to 10 (even numbers), Jeffery Street—69 occupants.
4. 23 to 29 (odd numbers), Low Fold, Roberttown—
4 occupants.
5. 163 to 173 (odd numbers), Norristhorpe Lane—20
occupants.

6. 13 to 57 (odd numbers), Huddersfield Road—66 occupants.
7. 2 to 10 (even numbers), Globe Yard—19 occupants.
8. 2 to 6 (even numbers), Springfield Lane, Hightown—Unoccupied.
9. 120 to 132, Commonsideside, Roberttown—13 occupants.

Objections were raised in respect to all the areas except Nos. 8 and 9, and an enquiry was held at the Town Hall, Cleckheaton, on October 19th. As a result the orders in respect of Nos. 1, 2, 4, 6 and 7 were confirmed in their entirety.

In respect of No. 5 the order respecting Nos. 163 to 169 was confirmed, but that respecting Nos. 171 and 173 was disallowed on condition that the owner did certain extensive repairs.

The order respecting the Knowler Hill Area, No. 3, was confirmed in the main, but six houses were excepted, namely Nos. 2, 4 and 6 Jeffrey Street and 5, 7 and 9 Tatton Street. These houses are three pairs of back-to-back houses and were excepted from the order on condition that certain repairs were carried out, and the six back-to-back houses were converted into three through houses.

The confirmation of these orders arrived too late for the re-housing to take place before the end of the year, but the removals will be carried out early in 1938.

Action under the Housing Act, 1936, has got rid of some very old and dilapidated property.

Towards the end of the year a further survey was made and certain additional properties, most single houses or pairs, were scheduled for action as soon as more rehousing accommodation is available.

The houses scheduled are as follows:—

- 143 and 145, Halifax Road, Hightown.
- 10 to 20 (even numbers), Lower Hall, Liversedge.
- 704 and 706, Halifax Road, Hightown.
- 7, Nattie Street, Littleton.
- 2-12 (even numbers), Walker Street, Littleton.
- 10, Carr Street, Littleton.
- 29-31 and 33, Knowler Hill, Liversedge.

34 to 42, 48 to 52, 64 to 68 (even numbers), Commonsideside, Roberttown.

35 and 37, Church Lane, Hightown.

40, 42 and 44, Buttershaw Lane, Hightown.

3 to 9 (odd numbers), Walton Cross, Hightown.

26, Liversedge Hall Lane.

156-166 (even numbers), Spen Lane, Gomersal.

2-8 (even numbers), Cross Street, Oakenshaw.

Rose Cottage, Hartshead.

House in Kitson Hill, Hartshead.

House in Parkin Hall Lane, Hartshead.

Lanesend, Hartshead.

3 houses in Crosshills, Hartshead.

5 houses in Peep Green Lane, Hartshead.

There are a few other houses still under consideration and they will be dealt with in my next report.

OVERCROWDING

Though the "Appointed Day" was fixed for January 1st, 1938, it has so far been impossible to re-house any of the numerous families at present living under overcrowded conditions. This is entirely due to the difficulty that is being experienced in obtaining suitable building land.

Negotiations have been going on for many months for a site which will probably be sufficient to deal with all the overcrowded families in the district. It is to be hoped that this land will shortly be available when building will be begun at once, though it cannot be expected that more than the worst cases can be dealt with in the present year.

151 houses in the areas added to Spenborough on April 1st, 1937, were reported as being overcrowded when the survey was made in 1936. A Table setting out the number of persons occupying the houses in these areas is appended.

Table IX INFECTIOUS DISEASE—NOTIFICATIONS IN AGE GROUPS AND WARDS.

DISEASE	All Ages	Under 1 year	1 to 5 years	5 to 15 years	15 to 25 years	25 to 45 years	45 to 65 years	Over 65 years	Age unknown	Oakenshaw and Hunsworth	Scholes	East Ward	West Ward	Spenn and Littleton	Millbridge	Highton and Hartshead	Robertson and Norrishorpe	Gomersal	Birkenshaw	Removed to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	65		13	37	8	7				3	1	9	5	5	13	2	1	21	5	60	
Diphtheria	21*		4	12	2	3						2	1		3	2	3	3	7	20	
Chicken Pox	182	8	54	117	3					3	21	16	26	9	27	29	13	34	4		
Pneumonia	37	1	6	4	1	11	6	6	2	2	2	5	6	3	4	3	6	3	3		
Erysipelas	5					2	3				1					1	2		1		
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	3	3												1	1		1		1	1	
Puerperal Pyrexia	1					1														1	
Tuberculosis Respiratory	20		1	1	8	7	2	1		3	1	2	2	1	5	2	1	2	1	19	
Other forms	7			3	1	2	1			2		1			1			1	2	1	
Totals	341	12	78	174	23	33	12	7	2	13	26	35	40	19	54	39	27	64	24	101	

* In two cases of Diphtheria the diagnosis was subsequently revised.

Table X. NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE—QUARTERLY INCIDENCE.

	CLECKHEATON and HUNSWORTH				LIVERSEGE and HARTSHAW				GOMERSAL and BIRKENSHAW				SPENBOROUGH			
	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Scarlet Fever ...	4	5	4	5	2		15	4	6	2	1	17	12	7	20	26
Diphtheria ...	2	1			5		1	2	2		2	6	9	1	3	8
Chicken Pox ...	4	19	11	32	11	31	15	21		22	6	10	15	72	32	63
Pneumonia ...	10	3		2	9	3		4	3	2		1	22	8		7
Erysipelas ...		1			1	1	1	1		1			1	2	2	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...						1								2		
Puerperal Pyrexia ...							1							2	1	
Tuberculosis Respiratory ...	1	4	3		2	4	2	1	1		2		4	8	7	1
Other forms ...		1	2			1				1	1	1		3	3	1
Totals ...	21	34	20	39	30	41	35	33	12	28	13	35	63	103	68	107

Table XI.

Notifications of Infectious Diseases, 1920 to 1937.

Year	Small-pox	Enteric Fever	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Puerperal Fever	Puerperal Pyrexia	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Chicken Pox	Respiratory Tuberculosis	Other Tuberculosis	Other Diseases	Totals
1920	—	5	86	52	15	13	3	—	5	—	58	6	1	244
1921	—	6	95	41	48	13	2	—	5	—	34	9	6	259
1922	—	2	98	13	42	13	3	—	7	—	45	12	4	239
1923	—	6	139	5	65	19	3	—	9	—	31	17	3	297
1924	—	4	35	6	149	17	4	—	3	—	48	9	3	278
1925	—	2	58	3	86	13	5	—	2	—	34	13	2	218
1926	—	1	34	24	66	12	3	—	3	—	43	16	2	204
1927	—	4	45	9	75	13	1	3	3	—	27	19	4	203
1928	29	8	118	10	38	9	2	2	1	80	19	13	2	331
1929	82	13	116	28	108	15	1	1	4	74	24	11	—	477
1930	57	8	80	21	55	14	3	2	5	233	26	14	—	518
1931	—	—	83	28	101	6	2	4	1	45	20	11	1	302
1932	—	3	209	9	59	9	2	2	2	291	22	13	—	621
1933	—	1	111	59	60	6	1	—	1	57	32	7	—	335
1934	—	—	110	59	23	11	1	2	3	81	18	8	1	317
1935	—	—	119	71	34	8	1	1	6	83	5	12	—	340
1936	—	—	70	21	25	8	2	4	1	108	16	4	—	259
Total 1920 —36	168	63	1606	459	1049	199	39	21	61	1052	502	194	29	5442
Average		3·7	94·5	27	61·7	11·7	2·3	1·2	3·6	117·6	29·5	11·7	1·7	321
1937	—	—	65	21	37	5	—	1	3	182	20	7	—	341

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The incidence of Infectious Disease showed a considerable increase over that for 1936, when it was exceptionally low. The total number of cases notified was 341, exactly twenty more than the average for the previous seventeen years.

The increase was entirely due to the prevalence of Chicken-pox. Infectious disease was most prevalent in the Spring and Autumn, the early part of the year and Summer being relatively free. Gomersal was very heavily attacked, nearly one-fifth of the total cases coming from that area.

It is very satisfactory to note that for the fourth consecutive year no case of Enteric Fever was notified, in fact there have only been four cases of this disease during the past seven years compared with forty in the previous seven years.

SCARLET FEVER.

Sixty-five cases of Scarlet Fever were notified during the year, five fewer than in 1936. Seventy per cent. of the cases occurred in the second half of the year, the second quarter being comparatively free from the disease. Gomersal Ward was by far the most heavily affected ward, and two-thirds of the cases were in the last quarter. Millbridge had thirteen cases and the East Ward nine. None of the other wards were at all badly affected, though cases occurred in all. The Cleckheaton and Hunsworth Area had fewest cases and Gomersal and Birkenshaw Area most.

As usual, the 5 to 15 age group accounted for considerably more than half the cases, and there were actually more cases aged over 15 than there were in children under 5. It has appeared of late years that more adolescents and adults were contracting Scarlet Fever than was formerly the case, and actually during the past three years twenty per cent. of the notified cases were over fifteen years of age compared with fifteen per cent. in the three years 1920-22.

No deaths occurred from Scarlet Fever during the year.

DIPHTHERIA.

The same number of cases of Diphtheria were notified during the year as in 1936, namely 21, but of these the diagnosis was revised in two cases. All but four of the cases were equally divided between the first and last quarter of the year. Half the cases occurred in the Gomersal and Birkenshaw area, but only three in Cleckheaton and Hunsworth.

Birkenshaw Ward was the most heavily affected with seven cases, more than had occurred in this area during the previous three years. No other ward had more than three cases, Oakenshaw and Hunsworth, Scholes, and Spen and Littleton escaping altogether.

The total number of cases was well under the average for the previous seventeen years.

Twelve of the twenty-one cases occurred in the 5-15 age group, and as was the case with Scarlet Fever there were more cases in persons over 15 than in children under 5.

There were no deaths from Diphtheria during the year.

PNEUMONIA

Thirty-seven cases of Primary or Influenzal Pneumonia were notified during the year, fifty per cent. more than in 1936. This was due almost entirely to the extensive epidemic of Influenza that occurred in the first quarter, during which period considerably over half the cases of Pneumonia were notified.

CHICKEN POX

There was a very great increase in the amount of Chicken-pox compared with the previous four years.

There were but few cases in the early months of the year, but in the Spring and early Summer there were a large number of cases, and cases continued until the end of the School Summer term. During August, September and the early part of October there were but few cases, but the complaint broke out afresh towards the end of the latter month and continued to the end of the year. The complaint attacked all parts of the district, though Oakenshaw and Hunsworth, Spen and Littleton and Birkenshaw wards had fewer cases than the others. Gomersal ward had most with thirty-four cases. All but eleven cases occurred between the ages of one and fifteen while there were three cases of adolescents.

ERYSIPELAS.

Five cases of Erysipelas were notified, three less than in the previous year. They all occurred in persons of over 25.

PUERPERAL PYRENIA.

On October 1st Puerperal Sepsis ceased to be notifiable as such, and all such cases are now notified as Puerperal Pyrenia.

No case of Puerperal Sepsis was notified before October 1st, and only one of Puerperal Pyrenia during the year. This case was removed to hospital and recovered.

On only one occasion during the previous seventeen years has the notification of this condition been as low as one. This was in 1933. In 1929 and 1935 two cases only were notified. During the past five years, 1933-37, thirteen cases have been notified while in the previous five years the number was twenty-one. A very definite improvement.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Three cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum were notified.

Cases Notified	3
Treated at Home	3
Vision Impaired	nil.
Unimpaired	3
Total Blindness... ..	nil.
Deaths	nil.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Twenty-seven cases of Tuberculosis were notified for the first time during the year, seven more than in the previous year.

Twenty of these were of the respiratory type, compared with only sixteen in 1936. Seventeen of the respiratory cases occurred between the ages of 15 and 45 and no case occurred under five years.

The cases were evenly distributed throughout the first nine months of the year, only one case occurring in the last quarter.

Table XII

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0								
1		1				1		2
5			1					
10	1		1	1				
15	1	1			1	1		
20	1	5		1	2	2		
25	1	1	2		1	1		
35	3	2			1	1		
45		1	1		1			
55	1				3			
65 and upwards...	1				1			
Age not known ...								
Totals ...	9	11	5	2	10	6		2

In four cases of death from Tuberculosis the cases had not been previously notified. In all but one of these cases the death occurred in hospital or other institution.

Two of these cases were of the respiratory type.

The following Table gives the number of cases of Tuberculosis on the register on December 31st, 1937.

Table XIII

	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Total
Males	91	47	138
Females	67	39	106
Total ...	158	86	144

Twenty notifications were received of admissions of persons suffering from Tuberculosis to Sanatoria, and eighteen of those discharged.

The following are the Institutions to which Tuberculosis patients were sent:—

	Admissions.		Discharges.	
	Form 1.		Form 2.	
Middleton-in-Wharfedale... ..	5	...	7	
Cardigan Sanatorium	6	...	6	
Eldwick Sanatorium... ..	1	...	—	
Crookhill Hall	1	...	—	
Scotton Bank... ..	3	...	1	
Preston Hall	1	...	—	
Oakwood Hall	1	...	1	
Papworth	1	...	1	
Kirby Moorside	1	...	—	
Leasowe	—	...	2	

INDEX

	PAGE		PAGE
Acts and Orders	18	Laboratory Facilities	18
Ante-natal Centres	26	Maternal Mortality	21
Bakehouses	35	Maternity Services	29
Bed Bugs, Eradication of	34	Meat Inspection	40
Births	7	Midwives' Act, 1936.....	17
„ Notification of	22	Milk Supply	39
Bye Laws	20	Offensive Trades	33
Chicken Pox	49	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	50
Children's Act	26	Orthopædic Work	26
Child Welfare Centres	24	Outworkers	33
Clinics.....	22	Overcrowding	44
Deaths	8, 11	Pneumonia	49
Diphtheria	48	Population	7
Disinfection	33	Puerperal Pyrexia	49
District Council, Members.....	2	Refuse Collection	31
Dried Milk, Supply of	26	Sanatoria	52
Enlargement of District	7	Sanitary Conveniences	30
Erysipelas	49	Improvements	35
Factories and Workshops	35	Sanitary Inspector's Report	32
Feeding Methods of Baby	23	Scarlet Fever.....	48
Health Committee, Members	3	Sewage Disposal	30
Department, Staff	4	Slaughterhouses	35
Visiting	25	Slum Clearance	41
Home Helps	29	Committee.....	3
Home Nursing	18	Smoke Observations	34
Hospitals	20, 21	Special Departments	20
Hospital Boards,		Swimming Baths	34
Representatives on	3	Tuberculosis	50
Housing Act, 1936	41	Vital Statistics	6, 12, 17
Housing Statistics	36	Zymotic Diseases,	
Infantile Mortality	15	Deaths from	9
Infectious Disease	45		
Inquests	9		

Table XIV.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS, 1937

	January	February	March	1st Quarter	April	May	June	2nd Quarter	July	August	September	3rd Quarter	October	November	December	4th Quarter	1937	1936	1935	
Barometer Maximum ...	30.615	30.128	30.24	30.615	30.57	30.44	30.315	30.57	30.198	30.395	30.213	30.395	30.59	30.37	30.75	30.75	30.75	30.735	30.82	Inches
" Minimum ...	29.233	28.985	29.075	28.985	29.353	29.563	29.748	29.353	29.738	29.838	29.258	29.858	29.065	29.343	29.005	29.005	28.985	28.775	28.439	Inches
" Mean ...	29.765	29.581	29.651	29.666	29.899	30.084	30.026	30.003	29.998	30.097	29.945	30.013	30.098	30.106	29.906	30.037	29.93	29.911	29.971	Inches
Thermometer Maximum ...	53	54	55	55	62	79	78	79	82	83	76	83	67	56	56	67	83	84	91	Degrees
" Minimum ...	23	20	20	20	32	34	40	32	45	44	36	36	34	23	22	22	20	16	21	Degrees
" Mean daily ...	40.7	39.9	36.9	39.2	50.4	53	58.4	54.1	62.2	62.4	55.1	59.9	50	40.7	36.6	42.4	48.9	48.1	49.2	Degrees
Rainfall ...	3.55	4.23	1.89	9.67	2.22	2.48	.97	5.67	1.89	1.02	1.06	3.97	2.48	1.66	1.84	5.98	25.29	27.02	26.48	Inches
Days with .01 inches ...	19	21	20	60	13	13	12	38	9	12	8	29	10	9	18	37	164	169	171	Days
Sunshine ...	25.5	47.75	45.25	118.5	59.75	122.5	100.75	283	91.5	115.5	90.25	297.25	41.5	32.25	8	81.75	750.5	869.6	1106.2	Hours
Per cent. of Possible Sunshine ...	11.2	19.1	13.5	14.6	15.6	27	21.8	21.8	19.6	27.4	25.9	24	12.6	14.3	3.8	10.7	18.9	22.1	26.8	Per Cent
Sunless Days ...	17	13	15	45	12	5	3	20	1	3	3	7	13	15	25	53	125	111	101	Days

RAINFALL.

SUNSHINE.

	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
January	1.54	3.58	1.43	1.22	1.7	1.93	1.22	2.63	3.55	12.5	38.2	24.7	41.0	17.5	29.7	34.5	24.5	25.5
February	.29	.59	2.49	.28	4.34	.14	1.83	2.55	4.23	9.2	21.1	28.2	26.4	53.0	51.5	45.5	39.	47.75
March	.24	2.44	.27	.95	1.94	1.72	.85	1.55	1.89	110.4	78.3	87.3	72.7	104.1	63.7	85.2	39.	45.25
April	.74	1.75	2.88	1.57	1.49	2.28	2.64	1.13	2.22	111.0	56.8	89.7	85.1	93.5	90.7	108.2	120.75	59.75
May	1.16	1.32	2.29	2.98	3.11	.85	.19	.82	2.48	153.5	102.7	128.7	64.0	88.5	128.5	186.2	106.5	122.5
June	.75	1.74	4.76	.14	1.65	1.08	1.83	3.22	.97	144.7	137.7	104.6	137.2	160.7	156.4	122.7	115.25	100.75
July	1.91	4.06	2.85	2.91	4.29	1.28	.7	2.77	1.89	155.6	84.5	106.8	97.5	154.8	214.7	180.2	101.75	91.5
August	2.12	2.94	3.04	.64	.54	.8	2.71	1.42	1.02	111.3	123.5	116.2	114.7	143.8	131.7	162.5	126.7	115.5
September	.81	3.53	3.09	1.28	1.22	1.36	4.46	3.02	1.06	131.6	81.0	76.0	100.8	130.2	134.5	98.7	72.17	90.25
October	2.08	2.85	1.02	3.02	3.06	1.82	4.27	2.84	2.48	86.5	85.7	99.9	56.5	52.1	83.5	59.2	62.75	41.5
November	4.08	2.67	3.2	1.14	1.57	1.82	3.86	3.63	1.66	18.4	42.2	28.7	21.7	25.2	16.2	15.5	26.	32.25
December	4.28	1.83	.95	.57	.35	3.6	1.92	1.44	1.84	29.0	9.8	21.8	24.4	2.7	15.2	7.5	39.75	8.
Total	20.	29.3	28.24	16.73	25.26	18.68	26.48	27.02	25.29	1073.9	861.7	912.7	841.8	1026.2	1116.6	1106.25	869.6	780.5

From December 1928 to June 1929 only 5.65 inches of rain fell, an average of .8 inch per month.

The sunniest period of three months since 1921 was June to August 1934 with 502.8 hours and June to August 1928 with 496.8 hours.

The most sunless period of three months since 1921 was December 1928 to February 1929 with 29.8 hours or just under twenty minutes per day.

From March to September 1929 there was 918.1 hours of sunshine or 94.8 per cent of the average annual sunshine for the sixteen years 1922 to 1937.

From January 16th to March 4th, 1933 the corrected reading of the barometer was never below 30 inches. On January 26th, 1933 the reading was 31.031, the highest here since records were taken. The average reading for February 1934 was the highest for any month for sixteen years.

Since 1921

Driest month, June 1925, .09 inch. Wettest month, August 1922, 5.12 inches

Sunniest month, July 1934, 214.7 hours. Most Sunless month, December 1933

Annual Rainfall for 16 years, 24.38 inches 2.7 hours

Driest year 1932, 16.73 inches. Wettest year 1922, 31.31 inches

Average Sunshine for 16 years, 968.9 hours.

Sunniest year 1934, 1116.6 hours. Most Sunless year 1937, 780.5 hours.

The Wettest three months was September to November 1935 with 12.59 inches.

Rain on 76 days. 165 inch per day.

The Driest three months was February to April 1929 with 1.27 inches. Rain on 18 days. .07 inch per day.

SPENBOROUGH EDUCATION COMMITTEE

REPORT
OF THE
SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

For the Year

1937

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School Medical Officer

LAWRENCE PICKERING-PICK, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.Ph.

Ophthalmic Surgeon

A. McKIE REID, F.R.C.S.

Dentist

- a. SYBIL M. HARRISON, L.D.S.
- b. JEMIMA M. GALLOWAY, L.D.S.

Director of Education

J. W. H. BURY, Esq.

School Nurses

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- Miss E. M. FIRTH, Certif. C.M.B.
- Miss P. W. HOLMES, Certif. C.M.B.
- Miss A. KELLET, Certif. C.M.B.
- Miss E. McCLEOD, Cert. C.M.B.
- c Miss F. WILLIAMS, Certif. C.M.B.

Clerk - Miss M. FURNESS

- a. Resigned October 31st, 1937
- b. Appointed November 31st, 1937
- c. Appointed Dental Assistant, April 1st, 1937

SPENBOROUGH EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report of the School Medical Service for the year 1937, being the eighteenth of the series.

The report is planned according to the suggestions of the Board of Education, and the statistical tables setting forth particulars specially required by the Board are grouped at the end of this report.

Considerable changes have taken place in the School Medical Service during the year, due in the main to the Review of County Districts whereby four additional schools were taken over by the Spensborough Education Authority. There were a two-department school at Birkenshaw, a temporary senior girls' school at Birkenshaw, and two one-department schools at East Bierley and Hartshead. The number of additional children was approximately five hundred. The area of the Urban District was very largely increased and it was consequently felt that an extra School Nurse and Health Visitor would be required. The additional Nurse was appointed and commenced her duties in June. This was the first alteration in the School Nursing Staff since a fourth Nurse was appointed in September, 1924. It had been felt for a considerable time that the services of a Dentist for two days a week only was inadequate for the needs of the district, and it was decided early in the year to appoint a whole time Dentist. This took effect in April when Miss S. M. Harrison, who had previously acted as part-time dental officer, was appointed full-time. In the autumn of the year Miss Harrison obtained another post and Miss M. Galloway was appointed in her place.

In view of the whole time dental appointment it was considered inexpedient to continue employing a nurse in the dental surgery and a dental attendant was appointed, thus relieving the nurse for duties in school and in the district.

At the end of the year Miss Williams, Spenborough's first school nurse retired on superannuation, having acted as dental attendant since April.

Routine School Medical Inspection was carried out regularly throughout the year, each school being visited three times, except three of the newly added schools, where there had been a medical inspection by the West Riding Education Authority just previous to the transfer.

Some of the schools had additional visits, particularly in the autumn, owing to the large number of children due for examination.

Forty-eight more children were inspected than in the previous year; the increase occurring chiefly in the infants' department and to a lesser extent among the leavers. The number of intermediates inspected was actually less than in the previous year in spite of the increase in the total number of children.

The increasing numbers of infant entrants inspected during the last three years is rather curious. In 1935 there were 375 of these inspections, in 1936 there were 395, and in 1937 440. There has been no increase in the birth-rate to account for this, and the only apparent reason for it is that children are being sent to school at the age of three in increasing numbers. If this is the case the time will shortly arrive when the number of entrants to be examined will drop materially.

The number of parents attending the School Medical Inspection showed a slight increase on the previous year, and is very satisfactory, particularly in the infant schools. In these departments it is fifteen years since the percentage of parents attending was less than 80.

In previous reports I have commented on the generally good condition of the children met with at medical inspections and there is little to add. Reference may, however, be made to the very small evidences of malnutrition. Twenty-eight children were found to be deficient in this respect compared with twenty-two in the previous year. Only one of them was classified as definitely bad. On the other hand thirteen children were classified as excellent from a nutritional point of view.

Nurses school treatments and the Special Treatment Centres at Valley Road and Heaton Avenue School have been in operation during the year. The result of the nurses cleanliness inspections were not quite as satisfactory as in 1936, 4.1 per cent. of the children were found to be infested with nits or pediculi compared with 3.2 in the previous year. Excluding nutritional and dental defects seventy-seven defects were found in every hundred children examined. But if cases of slightly enlarged tonsils needing no treatment and slight chest deformities, the result of old rickets are omitted, the number of defects per hundred children examined was forty-nine. These figures are a little larger than in the previous year.

Of all children examined 8.5 per cent. were found to be without defect. This compares favourably with 6.3 per cent. in 1936 and 7.3 per cent. in 1935. In a further 33 per cent. the only defect found was carious teeth. Operations for enlarged tonsils and adenoids have been definitely terminated at the Clinic. These cases are dealt with at the Bradford Eye and Ear Hospital, but there are comparatively few of them for reasons given in the body of this report.

The number of cases of defective vision sufficiently severe to call for refraction showed a slight reduction (80 compared with 86) on the previous year, but the number of cases of squint calling for treatment was only ten, exactly half those in 1936. The number of cases of defective sight asking for treatment as specials was 82, one less than last year, while there were sixteen special cases of squint, six more than in the previous year.

The number of cases of defective vision calling for treatment was 10.5 per cent. of those inspected. This compares very unfavourably with many other similar districts. The average for six towns similar in size to Spenborough was 6.4 per cent. of those examined required treatment and only one of the six showed a higher percentage than Spenborough. One town had only 2.1 per cent. of the children examined that required attention.

I am glad to be able to report that for the fourth successive year no case of ringworm either of the scalp or body has been seen.

The last three years have been bad ones for Infectious Disease among school children, though there were slightly fewer cases in 1937 than in the previous two years.

I have again to express my thanks to the Director of Education for his co-operation and ready help in enabling me to carry out my duties as School Medical Officer with the minimum of disturbance to school routine, and also to my clerk for the preparation of certain tables in this report.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen.

Your obedient servant,

L. PICKERING-PICK,

School Medical Officer.



SCHOOL HYGIENE.

This matter has been dealt with at length in previous reports.

No new schools have been opened during the year and no alterations of any size have been undertaken. Various improvements connected with sanitary convenience have been carried out in recent years.

Owing to the review of County Districts, which came into operation on April 1st, 1937, four additional schools came under the jurisdiction of the Education Authority. One of these is a temporary school for senior girls and is held in a Methodist Schoolroom at Birkenshaw. The other three, situated at East Bierley, Birkenshaw and Hartshead, are of the type usual in the area.

ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTION. AGES AT INSPECTION.

No alteration has been made in the ages at which children are examined. These are, as soon as possible after admission, during the ninth year and during the thirteenth year of age.

One visit is paid to each school every four months and two to some of the larger schools. Spacing the inspections throughout the year in this way ensures that a minimum of children in each age group are missed through absence from illness or any other cause.

Very few intermediates or leavers who should have been examined during the year were not so examined, approximately the number was thirteen. Of the entrants that should have been examined during the year over fifty were away from school during the examination during the autumn. This was largely due to the considerable amount of illness that occurred during this time, though the number of infants, especially under fives who are absent from the inspection, is usually fairly considerable. The usual number of children whom it was thought desirable to see a second time and special were dealt with at the Routine Inspections.

FINDING AT MEDICAL INSPECTION CLOTHING AND FOOTGEAR

There is nothing to say on this matter in addition to what has been said in previous reports. For the most part the children are well clothed and well shod. There are, of course, a few exceptions, but on the whole there is little cause for complaint.

MALNUTRITION.

As noted in previous years there is but little evidence of malnutrition among the children attending the Spensborough Elementary Schools. No attempt is now made to assess malnutrition by means of mathematical standards. This was tried for some years, but was not found to be satisfactory. Of the 1295 children inspected only twenty-eight or just over two per cent. were deemed to be subnormal from a nutritional point of view and only one of them was classed as definitely bad. Just under half this number, namely thirteen, were judged to be "excellent" from this point of view. Eight of these were in the Leaver Group.

The children classed as ill-nourished were divided fairly evenly between the various age groups, most occurring in the Infant Group, of which there were ten.

The total number of children at present listed as suffering from malnutrition are grouped as follows:—

		Boys.		Girls.		Total.
		Moderate.	Severe	Moderate.	Severe.	
Under 5	...	2	2	1	0	5
5—7	...	12	0	5	1	18
7—10	...	9	1	15	0	25
Over 10	...	17	0	12	4	33
		—	—	—	—	—
Totals		40	3	33	5	81
		—	—	—	—	—

UNCLEANLINESS

Only half a dozen girls were found to be suffering from nits or pediculi in the hair at Routine Inspections.

For some years past these number of infested children found at these inspections has been getting fewer. In the previous year there were sixteen. The numbers are always considerably less than those found by the nurses at their special inspections. The reason

for this is twofold. In the first place this defect is confined to a comparatively few families and only about a quarter of these will be due for inspection in any one year, but the nurse examines all children at every special inspection and consequently came across all the dirty children each time. In the second place some days notice is given to parents of the routine inspections, and this gives time to clean up the infested heads. This is usually done well enough to par number but not well enough to prevent a recurrence. Only one child was seen during the year whose head could be said to be in a really bad state.

CLEANLINESS INSPECTIONS.

A scheme for the inspection of children with regard to cleanliness has been instituted, and is carried out by the School Nurses. When conducting this inspection the nurse sees every child in the school, and notes the condition, whether clean, with nits, pediculi, dirty scalps or dirty bodies. The names of the defectives are entered on a special card and the defect noted against the child's name. Notices are then sent to the parents calling attention to the fact, and advising and giving directions for the treatment. In about ten days' time the nurse again visits the same school and re-inspects those children who were found to be defective at her previous visit. It is hoped by this means, and by following up the bad cases, that the greater number will be cured. The matter is a difficult one to deal with, the attitude of certain parents to this condition being most casual.

Owing to representations of the Board of Education there are now three of these Cleanliness Inspections during the year, in place of the two previously considered to be sufficient. The Inspections are held when the school re-assembles after the Christmas holidays, after Whitsun, and during the Autumn term.

At the three inspections 11,421 children were examined, and of these 95.9 per cent. or 10,952 were found to be clean in all respects.

This is a slight set back on 1936 when the percentage of clean children was 96.8. The reason for this was, I think, the inclusion of the extra few schools which came into Spenborough on April 1st with the added areas.

At the Spring inspection which took place in February and March the percentages of clean children was 96.9, but at the Summer inspection the number had dropped to 94.9. The difference is not very great and will probably right itself in the near future. The results on the whole are very satisfactory.

There were one hundred per cent clean at the Spring inspection at two schools, and at one school at each of the other two inspections.

Three schools only were below 95 per cent. at the Spring inspection, seven at the Summer and five at the Autumn inspection. The lowest percentage found at any school was 80.7.

Four hundred and fifteen children were re-inspected and of these three hundred and thirty-five were found to be improved. This gives a percentage of 80.7 and is a very considerable improvement on previous years.

Tables 1 2 and 3 give a summary of the Nurses' Inspections and Re-Inspections.

Table I. Spring Cleanliness Inspection, 1937

SCHOOL	No. Examined	With Nits only	With other Defects	Clean	Per Cent	No. Re- Examined	Improved	Per Cent
St. Lukes' C. E.	104	1	—	103	99·	1	1	100·
Littleton Council	193	9	1	183	94·8	10	5	50·
Gomersal National	233	13	2	218	93·5	9	7	77·7
Gomersal Council	294	16	5	273	92·8	21	20	75·2
Norristhorpe Council	188	5	—	183	97·3	5	5	100·
Roberttown Senior, Junior and Infants'	258	3	—	255	98·8	3	3	100·
Hightown National	136	3	—	133	97·7	3	—	—
Knowler Hill Council Infants	40	2	—	38	95·	2	2	100·
Millbridge National	242	5	2	235	97·1	7	6	87·5
Heaton Avenue	211	3	4	204	96·6	6	4	66·6
Millbridge Council	383	8	6	369	96·3	10	6	60·
Whitcliffe Road Junior and Infants'	283	2	7	274	96·8	6	4	66·6
South Parade Modern	214	2	1	211 ⁸	98·5	3	3	100·
Moorend C.E.	243	5	—	238	97·9	4	3	75·
Scholes C.E.	192	—	—	192	100·	—	—	—
Hightown Council	192	—	2	190	98·9	2	1	50
Oakenshaw Council	75	—	—	75	100·	—	—	—
ALL SCHOOLS	3481	77	30	3374	96·9	92	70	76·0

Table II. Summer Cleanliness Inspection, 1937

SCHOOL	No. Examined	With Nits only	With other Defects	Clean	Per Cent	No. Re- Examined	Improved	Per Cent
Birkenshaw National	259	2	—	257	99.2	2	2	100.
Scholes C.E.	157	9	1	147	94.2	8	8	100.
Gomersal National	215	3	—	212	98.6	3	2	66.6
Millbridge Council	410	4	5	401	97.8	6	—	—
Birkenshaw Senior Girls'	48	—	—	48	100.	—	—	—
Gomersal Council	286	—	1	285	99.6	1	1	100.
East Bierley C.E.	57	2	—	55	96.4	2	2	100.
Hartshead Council	69	10	—	59	85.5	10	9	90.
Heaton Avenue	225	4	3	218	96.8	7	3	42.8
Roberttown Senior, Junior and Infants'	269	45	1	223	82.8	36	27	75.
Hightown National	120	1	2	117	97.5	3	3	100.
Knowler Hill Council Infants	45	—	—	45	100.	—	—	—
Whitcliffe Road Junior and Infants	293	3	9	281	95.9	12	11	91.6
South Parade Modern	286	3	4	279	97.5	6	5	83.3
Oakenshaw Council	82	8	—	74	90.2	7	7	100.
Millbridge National	261	5	4	252	96.5	7	6	85.7
Moorend C.E.	199	17	—	182	91.4	15	13	86.6
St. Lukes' C.E.	108	1	3	104	96.2	4	4	100.
Littleton Council	195	6	4	185	94.8	10	7	70.
Norristhorpe Council	214	33	—	181	84.6	29	29	100.
Hightown Council	204	8	—	196	96.7	8	7	87.4
ALL SCHOOLS	4002	164	37	3801	94.9	176	146	82.9

Table III. Autumn Cleanliness Inspection, 1937

SCHOOL	No. Examined	With Nits only	With other Defects	Clean	Per Cent	No. Re- Examined	Improved	Per Cent
East Bierley C.E.	68	4	—	64	94.1	4	4	100.
Hartshead Council	72	5	—	67	93.	4	4	100.
Gomersal Council	314	3	—	311	99.	3	3	100.
Birkenshaw National	272	2	—	270	99.2	2	2	100.
Norristhorpe Council	206	9	—	197	95.6	8	7	87.5
Scholes C.E.	136	11	—	125	91.9	11	10	90.9
Oakenshaw Council	78	15	—	63	80.7	15	13	86.6
Birkenshaw Senior Girls'	56	—	—	56	100.	—	—	—
Gomersal National	216	3	1	212	98.1	4	2	50.
Moorend C.E.	195	27	1	167	85.6	26	22	84.6
Hightown Council	191	4	1	186	97.3	4	2	50.
St. Lukes' C.E.	112	1	2	109	97.3	3	3	100.
Roberttown Senior, Junior and Infants.	266	14	—	252	94.7	12	11	91.6
Millbridge Council	376	7	5	364	96.8	13	9	69.1
Heaton Avenue	203	3	4	196	96.5	5	5	100.
Millbridge National	242	9	—	233	96.7	4	4	100.
Whitcliffe Road	266	2	11	253	95.1	13	9	69.1
South Parade Modern	327	—	6	321	98.1	6	4	66.6
Hightown National	120	3	1	116	96.6	3	—	—
Knowler Hill Council Infants	45	—	—	45	100.	—	—	—
Littleton Council	177	3	4	170	96.	7	5	71.4
ALL SCHOOLS	3938	125	36	3777	95.9	147	119	80.9

MINOR AILMENTS.

Comparatively few of these cases were found at Routine Examinations. Twelve cases of Anæmia were found, of which eight were referred for treatment unless already under medical care. This was rather less than in the previous year. The commonest of these ailments were non-tuberculous chest trouble of which there were sixty-three cases, rather more than in 1936. One of these was definite Bronchitis, and it was referred for treatment, and the rest slight Bronchial Catarrh. All these latter were re-inspected at a later date, and most were found to have cleared up entirely.

ENLARGED TONSILS AND ADENOIDS

There was a decrease of twenty-one in the number of cases of enlarged tonsils and adenoids found at Medical Inspection, though about fifty more children were examined. Very few of these called for any treatment, the tonsils being simply enlarged, usually to a small extent, and without apparent disease.

Ten of these cases were referred for treatment.

Of late years a very large number of tonsillectomies have been performed privately and in hospital on school children in Spenborough, and this accounts for the fact that while the cases of slightly enlarged tonsils have up till now shown but little diminuation, the cases of diseased tonsils are diminished almost to vanishing point. This matter is again referred to under the Treatment Section.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Four cases of Tuberculosis were found at Routine Examination during the year. One was of the Respiratory type, one a joint case, and the other two Cervical Glands. All had been under treatment and in each case the disease was quiescent though the cases had not as yet been removed from the Tuberculosis Register.

SKIN DISEASES.

Forty-eight cases of Skin Diseases were discovered during the year at Routine Inspection and thirty other cases were seen as special cases.

This was seven more cases at Routine Inspection, while the specials numbered the same as in previous years.

There were six cases of Scabies, considerably more than has been usual of late years and nineteen cases of Impetigo. Sixty-two of the cases were referred for treatment.

RINGWORM.

For the fourth year in succession no case of Ringworm either of the scalp or the skin was discovered.

In one case only was it found necessary to take specimens of hair for microscopic examination and this was found to be negative.

It is astonishing how this disease has decreased compared to former years. In the eight years, 1920 to 1927, there were 237 cases of Ringworm of the scalp; and 66 of body Ringworm. In the following six years, 1928 to 1933, the numbers were reduced to 54 and 16 respectively, while in the last four years, 1934 to 1937, as mentioned above, there have been no cases at all.

The 291 cases of Ringworm of the scalp discovered between 1920 and 1933 must have been responsible for a loss at least of twenty-five thousand attendances and probably considerably more.

EAR DISEASE.

Twenty cases of Otitis Media were found during the year, fourteen of them at Routine Inspections. All were referred for treatment.

Twenty-three other cases of ear trouble came to light, mostly accumulations of wax in the external meatus. Directions were given for remedying the condition in the majority of cases.

EXTERNAL EYE DISEASES.

Seventeen cases of External Eye Diseases were found during the year, all but four at Routine Inspections. All but three were referred for treatment. This was a slight decrease compared with the previous year.

SQUINT.

Thirty-five cases of Squint were found, two more than in 1936. Ten of these were found at Routine Inspections, and all but five were referred for treatment.

The number of these cases coming up as specials is definitely increasing; teachers have always referred bad cases to me, but of late years parents are becoming increasingly anxious to have the defect remedied.

DEFECTIVE VISION.

The vision of eight hundred and forty children was tested at the Routine Medical Inspections, that is, all children of over seven years, except nine who were unable or refused to read the types. Of the 840 children, 551 were found to have normal vision in both eyes, and 289 to have some visual defect in one eye or both. The percentage with normal vision was rather less than in the previous year, namely, 65.6 per cent., compared with 72.7 per cent. Of the 289 children with some visual defect, about two-thirds had defects so slight that correction was not considered necessary. As a rule, treatment was advised when the vision is worse than 6/12 in one eye. That is a child with vision 6/12 in both eyes, was not referred for treatment, while one with 6/12 in one eye and 6/18 in the other, or 6/6 in one eye and 6/18 in the other, was referred for treatment. There were, of course, many exceptions to this rule. Children suffering from chronic headache in school being nearly always referred for refraction even if the visual acuity appeared to be normal to the types.

In the 289 children with subnormal vision of any degree, 84.1 per cent. of the individual eyes had an acuity of 6/12 or better, and 15.9 per cent., one of 6/18 or worse. Eighty children were referred for treatment, six less than last year. There has been a most remarkable reduction in the number of cases of defective vision requiring treatment compared with recent years. In 1933 11.1 per cent. of those tested were found to require treatment; in 1934, the percentage was 11.7; but in 1935 only 9.2 per cent., and in 1936 10 per cent. were found to be in need of attention, the number being about the same for the year under review.

Table IV. gives a summary of the Vision Test at the Routine Medical Inspections:—

TABLE IV.—VISION TESTING.

Per Cent.

Number Examined	840	...	
With Normal Vision	551	...	65.5
With Sub-Normal Vision ...	289	...	34.5
Vision 6/6 Right	48	...	5.7
Left 	48	...	5.7
Vision 6/9 Right	142	...	16.9
Left 	127	...	15.1
Vision 6/12 Right	56	...	6.6
Left 	65	...	7.7
Vision 6/18 Right	29	...	3.4
Left 	27	...	3.2
Vision 6/24 Right	12	...	1.4
Left 	12	...	1.4
Vision 6/36 Right	2	...	.23
Left 	6	...	.71
Vision 6/60 Right	—	...	—
Left 	2	...	.23
Vision 6/0 Right	1	...	.11
Left 	1	...	.11
With Glasses	52	...	6.1
Not Tested	9		
Number of Children referred for Treatment			80

DENTAL DEFECTS.

At the Routine Inspection the teeth of each child are examined, but without mirror and probe, and consequently many carious teeth are missed which would be detected if more thoroughly searched for by a dental surgeon. In spite of this, however, no fewer than 1,072 children had one or more decayed teeth, leaving a residue of 223 with apparently sound teeth, a percentage of 17.2, somewhat higher than last year. In 434 children carious teeth was the only defect found; a percentage of 33.5, compared with 37.9 per cent. in 1936, and 35.3 in 1935.

Condition of teeth found at Routine Examinations:

All Teeth sound ...	223	...	17.14 per cent.
Carious (1 to 3) ...	684	...	52.81 per cent.
Carious (4 or more)	388	...	22.23 per cent.

These figures do not differ very materially from those of recent years. The percentage of children with sound mouths is rather higher this year than last, 17.1 per cent. compared with 13.63 per cent. There is also

a decrease in the number with four or more carious teeth, the percentage having fallen to 22.23 from 36.29 three years ago. Fourteen years ago only 11.9 per cent. of the children examined had sound mouths, and the percentage with four or more carious teeth was 41.8.

There can be no doubt whatever that the condition of the mouths of the children in the Spenborough Elementary Schools is definitely improving. At one time it was most uncommon to come across a child with a clean mouth full of sound teeth, and while it cannot be said yet that this is a common experience now, at the same time quite a number of children's mouths show evidence of care and attention. What is more evident than the increase in perfect dentures is the very marked reduction in the number of foul mouths full of septic teeth. It is a great pity that more parents do not realise the necessity, to say nothing of the comfort, of a clean mouth, and make more use of the dental service than they do at present.

CRIPPLING DEFECTS.

Only one case of Epilepsy was met with during Routine Inspection. This was a very mild case, and was referred for observation. Eight cases of Epilepsy are known: four are mild cases at one school, the other four are excluded.

Five cases of Chorea were met with, two being referred for treatment.

Four cases of Tuberculosis were met with at Routine Inspection, and one was of the respiratory type. In all, thirty cases of Tuberculosis are known among the school population, of which four are of the respiratory type. Most of the non-pulmonary cases are quiescent, and are attending school.

Thirty-five children were seen who were suffering from Heart trouble. In twenty-six of these the trouble was functional, and in only nine was the disease considered to be organic. They were for the most part mild and well compensated. No child seen during the year had to be excluded.

Fifteen cases of Anæmia were found, three of which were specials. Most of the cases were slight, but six were referred for treatment.

Table V gives the heights and weights of all children examined during the year and also the averages for each age group from 1920 to 1937.

Table V.
HEIGHTS and WEIGHTS

Examined in 1937					Examined in 1920 to 1937					
Age	Number	Average Height	Average Weight	Ratio W/H	Number	Average Height	Average Weight	Ratio H/W		
BOYS	3	46	37·8	34·2	·9	711	38·1	33·9	·88	
	4	113	40·5	37·5	·92	1503	39·7	37·	·93	
	5	63	42·3	43·4	1·03	1593	41·9	39·6	·94	
	6	8	43·0	44·9	1·04	351	43·5	43·6	1·	
	7	16	47·8	51·9	1·08	254	43·9	47·9	1·09	
	8	204	49·4	55·9	1·12	3878	47·7	53·1	1·11	
	9	12	50·5	55·3	1·09	180	49·8	56·3	1·13	
	10	17	52·9	71·5	1·35	172	51·7	65·7	1·27	
	11	14	54·5	70·9	1·3	209	53·9	69·5	1·29	
	12	176	56·3	79·1	1·4	3628	54·6	73·4	1·34	
	13	5	57·2	82·6	1·41	207	55·8	79·1	1·41	
	14	3	56·5	73·9	1·29					
	GIRLS	3	43	35·3	33·5	·95	655	36·6	32·7	·89
		4	89	40·2	36·8	·91	1419	39·2	35·	·89
5		68	41·8	38·9	·93	1550	41·1	37·8	·92	
6		16	41·7	44·9	1·07	362	43·1	42·1	·98	
7		16	45·8	47·5	1·03	224	45·7	46·8	1·02	
8		180	48·8	53·8	1·1	3716	48·3	51·3	1·06	
9		6	49·6	53·9	1·09	207	49·2	55·2	1·12	
10		14	54·2	65·2	1·2	194	55·1	63·1	1·14	
11		22	55·1	71·8	1·3	199	54·4	71·2	1·31	
12		157	58·8	80·7	1·37	3516	55·7	75·3	1·35	
13		4	55·4	70·1	1·26	256	56·4	80·8	1·43	
14		1	55·5	72·	1·31					

The figures in the above table show but little change from year to year, but there is a steady small increase in both height and weight in both sexes.

A note on this increase and a comparison of present weights and heights of both sexes compared with those in the early 1920's will be found in my report for 1936.

VACCINATION.

Of the 1,295 children inspected, 1,045 were unvaccinated, a percentage of 80.69, the largest percentage ever recorded in Spenborough, and an increase of 3.5 per cent. over last year's figures.

TABLE V.—VACCINATION.

Year.	Examined	Number. Unvaccinated	Per Cent.
1920	771	400	51.9
1921	2020	1190	58.9
1922	1076	678	61.0
1923	1507	1047	69.4
1924	1782	1238	69.4
1925	2068	1497	72.4
1926	955	727	76.2
1927	1405	995	70.8
1928	1481	1014	68.4
1929	1466	1007	68.6
1930	1285	894	69.5
1931	1364	917	67.3
1932	1339	949	70.9
1933	1457	1008	69.2
1934	1364	1018	74.6
1935	1197	892	74.5
1936	1247	962	77.1
1937	1295	1045	80.69

TREATMENT.

Treatment is carried out partly at the School Clinic, partly by the nurses in the schools at their weekly visits, and partly at special treatment clinics held daily during term time at Heaton Avenue School for the northern end of the district, and at the School Clinic for the southern end. Owing to the scattered nature of the district, a visit to the Clinic often entails the loss of an entire half day in school. Certain defects, such as errors of refraction, enlarged tonsils and adenoids, and dental cases can obviously only be dealt with at the Clinic, but the bulk of the minor ailments, most skin diseases and slight injuries, are dealt with in the schools, only an occasional visit to the Clinic being necessary when the case is not responding to treatment. This method of dealing with defects saves thousands of hours of school time during the year, besides ensuring prompt and certain attention in all cases. All cases, except such defects as warts, sores, boils, and minor injuries, which in themselves make

up a large proportion of the total cases treated, are referred to the School Medical Officer, either at the Clinic or at his periodical visits to the schools. The following Table gives the defects dealt with at the School Clinic:—

TABLE VI.

Scabies	5
Impetigo	19
Other Skin Diseases	37
External Eye Disease	10
Defective Vision and Squint	162
Otitis Media	20
Other Ear Disease	19
Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids	0
Other Throat and Nose Disease	5
Miscellaneous Defects	66
Making a Total of	346

Three hundred and seventy-one attendances were made at the Medical Clinic, and two thousand seven hundred and twenty-nine at the Dental Clinic, making a total of three thousand one hundred. Table VII. shows the number of children from each school who received treatment.

TABLE VII.

	No. of Children Receiving Treatment.	Attending Dental Clinic.
Roberttown Senior, Junior & Infants	23	240
Whitcliffe Road Council	42	187
Scholes C. E.	21	121
Norristhorpe Council	21	122
Millbridge Council	16	365
Millbridge National	14	152
St. Luke's C. E.	8	58
Gomersal Council	17	338
Gomersal National	13	152
Oakenshaw Council	13	43
Heaton Avenue	18	197
Moorend C. E.	25	107
Hightown National & Knowler Hill	12	92
South Parade Modern	15	83
Littleton Council	27	130
Hightown Council	21	93
Hartshead Council	5	41
Birkenshaw C. E.	17	4
Birkenshaw Girls'	11	4
East Bierley C. E.	4	1

A Nurse is in attendance every morning at the School Clinic in Valley Road and at Heaton Avenue School for the treatment of such cases as require more frequent attention than can be given at the weekly visits to the schools. During the year two hundred and twenty-nine cases were dealt with at these treatment centres.

ERRORS OF REFRACTION

The following are the particulars of the cases of errors of refraction and squint dealt with at the School Clinic during the year:—

Errors of Refraction Routine	80
Squint Routine	10
Special cases and re-examination	55
No correction or alteration required	43
Spectacles prescribed	102
Spectacles obtained	92
Cases seen privately or in Hospital	4

Mr. M. Kie Reid, of Liverpool, attended on eleven occasions during the year and saw one hundred and twenty children.

Two very bad cases of Squint were admitted to St. Paul's Hospital, Liverpool, under Mr. M. Kie Reid for operation. The results in both cases were extremely satisfactory.

ENLARGED TONSILS AND ADENOIDS

Up till 1935 operations for the removal of Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids were carried out at the School Clinic. After the death of Dr. Unthank, in that year, the treatment of this condition was discontinued and in the early part of 1937 an arrangement was made with the Bradford Eye and Ear Hospital for cases referred from the School Medical Department to be treated at the hospital.

Comparatively few of these cases were dealt with during the year. Twenty-six parents were advised to have their children treated for Enlarged Tonsils or Adenoids or both, but only five took the advice given.

It is a curious fact that while a very considerable number of children have their tonsils removed at some time or another, very few will have it done as the result of advice given after school medical inspection. The reason, I think, is probably because when examined in school, children are not obviously suffering from the effects of their enlarged tonsils, whereas when operation is advised by the family doctor there is probably something obviously wrong.

RINGWORM.

No case of Ringworm was dealt with at the School Clinic during the year.

DUTIES OF SCHOOL NURSES.

There are five half-time School Nurses in Spenborough, who also act as Health Visitors, the equivalent of two and a half whole-time nurses. Seeing that there are twenty schools and an area of 8,600 acres, this cannot be considered excessive.

The district is divided into five areas, each nurse being allotted one area, both as School Nurse and Health Visitor. The nurses attend with the School Medical Officer at the Routine Examinations. She weighs and measures the children to be examined, and tests the vision, with the types, of the children in the upper schools, before the examination.

Nurses are in attendance at the General Clinics, but it is not considered necessary for one to attend for refractions.

Each nurse visits each of her schools once weekly during term time for the treatment of minor ailments. At this time she obtains information with regard to children absent for infectious disease, and with regard to any exceptional children. Seven hundred and seventy-nine visits were made during the year. She visits the houses when required to enquire into alleged cases of infectious disease where no doctor is in attendance, and also to follow up certain defectives who have not responded to notices to attend the Clinic for treatment, or to obtain any other information required. The nurses paid two hundred and seventy-three visits during the year for these purposes. Three times in each year special visits are made to schools for head inspections.

All children in school on the day of inspection are examined and reported on, and dirty children are re-inspected about a fortnight later.

TREATMENT BY NURSES IN THE SCHOOLS

The following is a summary of the treatments carried out by the School Nurses, the figures indicating the actual number of children affected:—

Number treated for Sores and other Diseases		
	of Skin	188
„	Minor Eye Defects	101
„	Minor Ear Defects	48
„	Minor Injuries	762
„	Other Defects	117
<hr/>		
Total Number of cases dealt with by School		
	Nurses	1216

The majority of cases other than sores and minor injuries were seen by myself, either at Routine Examinations, at the Clinic, or as Specials, when directions were given the nurse as to treatment. The large number of sores treated in the schools accounts for the comparatively few cases found at Routine Medical Inspections.

The total number of treatments given by the nurses in the schools during the year was 7,446, and, in addition, advice was given in 340 cases. The number of visits paid by the nurses to the schools for various purposes was 886.

REPORT OF SCHOOL DENTIST.

The Health Department,

Valley Road, Liversedge,

24th January, 1938.

To the School Medical Officer,
Spenborough Urban District Council.

Dear Sir,

I have pleasure in submitting to you a report on the work for 1937 done, partly by Miss Harrison, and in small part by myself.

From these figures, I may comment on the exceptionally poor condition of the teeth on the whole. Of the 4,167 children inspected only 299 required no treatment.

It is good to see how many children from 4—6 years have started to attend for treatment.

I may comment favourably also on the decrease of special cases in relation to the number treated, and the marked increase in the amount of conservation work done in relation to extractions.

With a view to improving the percentage of acceptances for treatment, I would suggest, in the first place, that short talks to children at school on oral hygiene would be beneficial, particularly to the children between the ages of 10—14 years. It would, I am sure, arouse their interest. And, secondly, an increase in the scope of the work done at the Clinic by the introduction of orthodontic treatment in suitable cases.

I am, sir,

•
Yours faithfully,

MARIE GALLOWAY.

SUMMARY OF WORK DONE

Number of half-days occupied:

(a) at Clinic	367	
(b) at Inspections	38	
Total	—	405

Average number inspected each half-day ... 110

Number absent when inspections were made —

Number of schools inspected or re-inspected

during year 24

Number not required treatment 299

Special cases 131

Number actually treated 1777

Re-treated as result of periodical examination:

Fillings: (a) Temporary teeth 474

(b) Permanent teeth 1651

Total — 2125

Extractions: (a) Temporary teeth 2464

(b) Permanent teeth 456

Total — 2920

Number of teeth extracted for regulation ... 30

General anæsthetics administered 10

Other operations: (a) Temporary teeth ... 846

(b) Permanent teeth ... 330

Total — 1176

Number of children who were:

(a) Inspected—

(i) Routine—

Age	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Number	25	176	358	467	380	543	549	513	413	408	344	136

Total 4167

(ii) Specials 131

Grand Total — 4298

(b) Found to require treatment 3999

(c) Actually treated... .. 1777

Attendance made by children 2709

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Though twenty-three fewer cases of infectious disease were reported as occurring amongst school children than in the previous year and though more children were at risk owing to the increase in the size of the district, there was a considerable amount of infectious disease in the schools during the year.

The year opened well, for during the second, third and fourth weeks of the Easter Term no case of infectious disease was reported among the school population. The first quarter was by far the least affected of any part of the year. There was a fair amount of mumps and some chicken-pox, but otherwise very little to note.

The rest of the year was definitely bad, the second quarter particularly so. There was some remission from August to October, but in the last two months of the year there was a lot of infectious disease, particularly scarlet fever, whooping cough, and chicken-pox.

The school most heavily attacked in proportion to the number of children on roll was Hightown Council, closely followed by Gomersal Council and Scholes.

On the other hand South Parade, the Roberttown schools which headed the list last year, Millbridge National, Oakenshaw and Birkenshaw Temporary Girls' School all showed a very low incidence, in fact there were only nineteen cases of infectious disease in these six schools during the year.

Differences in the amount of infectious disease in adjoining schools was again very marked. For instance Millbridge Council School had 100 cases of various diseases reported giving an incidence of 22.3 cases per 100 on roll in June, whereas Millbridge National had only seven cases with an incidence of 2.6 per 100 on roll. Again Gomersal Council School had 99 cases and an incidence of 29.6 compared with 31 cases at the National School and an incidence of 13.5. This fact seems to confirm the idea that much of the infection in these air born diseases is transmitted in schools.

SCARLET FEVER.

There were forty-eight cases of Scarlet Fever among the school population in 1937. This was seven more than in the previous year, but except for that fewer than in any of the previous ten years.

Table VIII. Infectious Disease in Schools, 1937

SCHOOL.	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Measles	Whooping Cough	Chicken Pox	German Measles	Mumps	TOTAL	Cases per 100 on Roll 1937	Cases per 100 on Roll 1936
Oakenshaw					2		1	3	3.6	8.9
East Bierley	2				2			4	6.2	
Scholes				27	13	1	8	49	28.9	12.3
Moorend	2			2	8		35	47	21.4	11.3
Heaton Avenue	2			22	35		2	61	24.7	23.8
Whitcliffe Road	1			26	1			28	8.9	17.7
South Parade.....	1							1	.3	5
St. Lukes	2				17	1	1	31	25.4	9.1
Hightown Council	1	2	10	7	36		2	70	31.	7.9
Hightown National			2	10	11		6	29	15.	1.8
Roberttown Schools			1	1	2		2	6	2.2	32.5
Norristhorpe		1			11		1	13	5.7	17.
Millbridge Council	19 ^a		7		70		4	100	22.3	23.5
Millbridge National	3	1			3			7	2.6	16.8
Littleton	1				1		1	3	1.4	19.5
Gomersal Council	11	2	1	8	77		.	99	29.6	24.7
Gomersal National		1	1	1	13		15	31	13.5	16.3
Birkenshaw National	3	2	6		24		2	37	12.5	—
Birkenshaw Girls					1		1	2	3.8	—
Hartshead					9			9	11.8	—
All Schools.....	48 ^a	9	50	104	336	2	81	630	14.5	16.5

^a 9 Cases resided outside Spenborough

The great majority of the cases occurred in the second half of the year, the first six months being exceptionally free from it. Most cases of all occurred in August, just at the end of the summer term, September and November.

Millbridge Council and Gomersal Council Schools were by far the most heavily affected with nineteen and eleven cases respectively. At the former school nine of the cases were among children not living in Spenborough. No other school had more than three cases during the year and seven schools escaped Scarlet Fever entirely. No deaths occurred among any of the school children attacked.

DIPHTHERIA.

Nine cases of Diphtheria were notified among the school children during the year. This is exactly half the number in 1936 and the smallest number since 1932. All the cases occurred in the first and last quarter, four of them being in December. Three schools had two cases each and three one case each, fourteen schools escaping altogether. There was no death reported among these cases.

MEASLES.

1937 was a good year in that Measles was comparatively in little evidence. Only three times since 1921 have there been fewer cases. The only schools where the number of cases ran into double figures were Hightown Council with 22 cases and St. Luke's with ten. Twelve schools had no cases and three more only one each. Measles had recently shown a fairly regular incidence, two years with a large incidence, followed by two with a fairly low one. It will be interesting to see if this is continued in the future.

WHOOPING COUGH.

There was rather less Whooping Cough among the school children than in 1936. Of the 104 cases seventy-one occurred in June, July and November, and seventy-five at three Cleckheaton schools, namely, Scholes, Heaton Avenue and Whitcliffe Road. Eleven of the schools escaped this complaint altogether.

The incidence of Whooping Cough has been considerably greater during the past two years than for the previous twelve years or so.

CHICKEN-POX.

Chicken-pox has been very prevalent during the year, the incidence in the second quarter being the highest. There was a very decided remission in August, September and October during which months only fifteen cases were reported, but in November the complaint flared up again and continued into the new year. Only in 1932 have more cases been reported in any one year since 1922. South Parade was the only school that was entirely immune, though nine other schools had less than ten cases. Gomersal Council and Millbridge Council were most heavily attacked with 77 and 70 cases respectively. Next came Hightown Council with 36 cases and Heaton Avenue with thirty-five.

It is but seldom that more than a few months pass without an outbreak of Chicken-pox in some part of the district, and from 1922 when the present system of ascertainment first came into force there have only been two years when fewer than one hundred school children have been attacked.

Chicken-pox is a very infectious complaint, but as a rule a very mild one and children do not feel ill for more than a day or two, consequently practically all of them get about and mix with other children out of school while still in an infectious condition, this lasting till all the scabs have fallen off.

MUMPS.

There was a considerable decrease in the cases of Mumps during 1937, compared with the previous year, and the number was far below that of the epidemic years. Only five schools escaped entirely but only two had more than ten cases, namely, Moor End with 35 cases and Gomersal National with fifteen.

The majority of the cases occurred in the first half of the year, only ten being reported after June.

**TABLE IX.—INFECTIOUS DISEASES AMONG
SCHOOL CHILDREN, 1920 to 1937.**

Year	Enteric Fever	Small Pox	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Measles	Whooping Cough	Chicken-pox	Mumps	German Measles	TOTALS
1920			56	31						87
1921			56	30						86
1922			80	8	315	92	173	12		680
1923			95	5	215	36	21	158		530
1924			22	3	174	53	132	196		580
1925			37	1	367	79	120	43		647
1926			23	20	37	101	210	136		527
1927			39	4	244	21	126	276		710
1928		4	80	3	47	33	109	7		283
1929	3	34	64	8	298	116	116	8	68	715
1930	1	21	55	9	62	58	170	3	8	387
1931			57	20	22	34	38	433	2	606
1932	1		139	5	272	132	357	176	1	1083
1933			74	53	200	38	131	6	1	503
1934			73	50	58	8	167	6	2	364
1935			78	49	231	133	123	11	23	648
1936			41	18	172	103	134	182	3	653
1937			48	9	50	104	336	81	2	630

OPEN-AIR EDUCATION.

Spennborough is not, as yet, provided with an open-air school for physically defective children, but the matter has been under consideration, and it is expected that one will be provided in the near future.

As stated elsewhere in this report, there are some fifty delicate children in the district, most of whom are attending the elementary schools, who would benefit considerably if a special school were available.

It is often felt necessary to exclude children from school for general debility when, if an open-air school were available, they could attend there for two or three months until their general condition was improved.

PROVISION OF MEALS.

It has not been found necessary to provide meals for any of the school children during the year.

Milk is provided for all children who will take it each day the schools are open. Each school makes its own arrangements except in cases where a child is recommended to have milk on medical grounds and the parents are unable to pay for it. In these cases the cost is borne by the Education Committee. 2,745 children were having milk regularly during the last term of the year, and of these 66 were having it free of cost to their parents. This gives a percentage of 65 of the total on roll, a rather larger percentage than that given for the whole country. At most of the schools milk is provided, though at one or two a proprietary malted milk is given. Most of the milk provided is pasteurised and the rest comes from local farms holding a licence to sell accredited milk. The usual time for giving out the milk appears to be 10.45. Most of the children have their dinner immediately on returning home from school at noon, and it is a question as to whether a quarter to eleven is not rather late for digestion of the milk cannot be completed by the child's dinner time. In addition it seems that the milk should not be given stone cold in the winter time, particularly to the younger children, though I understand an attempt is made in some schools to warm the milk by means of the hot water pipes.

PHYSICAL TRAINING.

A Male Physical Training Instructor was appointed in September who devotes two days a week in the Spenborough Schools.

SCHOOL BATHS.

The elder children (those over eleven) attend the Cleckheaton and Heckmondwike Municipal Baths at regular times during the summer months to receive instructions in swimming. Children primarily go to the baths to learn to swim, and those who can already do so do not attend unless the number of learners in each school is not sufficient to make up the regular number.

Swimming is not compulsory, but all children over eleven are taught if their parents so desire, with the exception of those attending Oakenshaw school. Accommodation is provided for 480 at Cleckheaton and 200 at Heckmondwike.

Certificates of proficiency are granted; second class to those who can swim twenty-five yards, and first class certificates to those who can swim fifty yards breast stroke and twenty-five yards on the back. In addition, the Council give a free pass to those who can swim a quarter of a mile. No child is allowed to compete for this pass until he or she reaches the age of thirteen, it being rightly considered that the exertion is too great for younger children. The following are the certificates of proficiency granted:—

	1st Class.	2nd Class.
Boys	49	94
Girls	65	119

Free Passes: 15 boys, 17 girls.

CO-OPERATION OF PARENTS.

There was a slight increase in the number of parents who attended the Medical Inspections, compared with last year, and the attendances were still very good. 67.6 per cent. of the parents invited attended in the Mixed Schools, and 88.3 per cent. in the Infant Schools, the percentage for all schools being 74.8.

For the first time for some years a parent refused to allow his child to be examined.

The attendances at Medical Inspections were:

In the Cleckheaton Schools	75.2
In the Liversedge Schools	73.4
In the Gomersal Schools	76.8
In the Mixed Departments	67.6
In the Infant Departments	88.3
In all Schools	74.8

TABLE XI.

		Percentages Attended.			
		Mixed Schools.		Infants' Schools.	
		Invited.	Attended.	Invited.	Attended.
1920	.....	504	46.1	273	73.0
1921	.....	1348	58.1	672	75.5
1922	.....	958	60.8	118	77.0
1923	.....	1135	60.0	472	79.0
1924	.....	1094	61.3	689	83.15
1925	.....	1406	59.5	718	83.5
1926	.....	516	64.7	434	85.9
1927	.....	900	64.2	479	88.5
1928	.....	1067	62.04	410	90.73
1929	.....	933	66.3	533	86.8
1930	.....	863	66.9	422	84.8
1931	.....	881	68.1	481	90.6
1932	.....	901	64.7	392	92.3
1933	.....	978	64.9	479	93.2
1934	.....	937	67.2	435	82.7
1935	.....	822	69.7	375	89.9
1936	.....	852	66.5	395	88.1
1937	.....	855	67.6	440	88.3

On the whole the co-operation of parents in respect of getting defects in their children remedied leaves little to be desired, but there is still a proportion who refuse to believe treatment is necessary because they themselves cannot see the defect. The number of such parents is by no means as large as it was, but there are still some. Difficulty is still found in a fairly large number of cases in getting prescriptions for spectacles attended to. This has been especially troublesome this year in one of the added areas from which also came a larger number of broken appointments with the school oculist than have happened for many years.

CO-OPERATION OF TEACHERS.

Great assistance is obtained from the teachers in the various schools in bringing cases of defects to the notice of the Medical Officer or of the School Nurses. Many cases are thus discovered which would otherwise be missed. At the Routine Medical Inspection the head teachers arrange the order in which the children are to be seen, and send up for inspection any special cases that they may consider require seeing.

Although the nurses' weekly visits to the schools are primarily for the purpose of treatment of minor ailments found during the medical inspections, teachers are requested to bring to their notice at that time any case of defect not seen by the Medical Officer, whom they may think requires treatment.

When any child is excluded from school by the Medical Officer, a duplicate of the certificate of exclusion is sent immediately to the head teacher of the school at which the child attends. This certificate states the number of days for which the child is excluded, and the teacher is thus able to ensure that the child does not return to school too soon, and, on the other hand, is able to call the Attendance Officer's attention to any child who does not return to school on the expiration of the certificate.

CO-OPERATION OF ATTENDANCE OFFICERS.

On the exclusion from school of any child by the School Medical Officer, a duplicate of the certificate is sent immediately to the Education Office for the information of the Attendance Officers. By this means that department is kept aware of those children who are absent from school legitimately. The Attendance Officers refer children who are absent from school for alleged illness to the School Medical Officer if they are doubtful of the genuineness of the case, and failing the production of a certificate from the usual medical attendant.

CO-OPERATION OF VOLUNTARY SOCIETIES.

The greatest assistance is rendered in many cases, otherwise difficult to deal with, by the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children. The officers of this Society are in a position to bring great pressure to bear on certain neglectful parents who will take no notice of anyone else. Fortunately, the number of such parents does not seem to be a large one in Spennborough. I have received during the year great assistance from the Society's Inspector in several cases.

A most valuable voluntary society exists in the Cleckheaton Cripples' Clinic. Here, cases of deformity of all kinds are dealt with under the direction of Mr. James Phillips, of Bradford. A number of school children suffering from deformities, etc., have been referred to and treated at this institution during the year. During the year twenty cases were referred to this institution.

BLIND, DEAF AND EPILEPTIC CHILDREN.

No special investigation has yet been undertaken for the grouping of this class of defects, beyond the school census, the findings of which are shown in Table III. (Board of Education).

Two "Blind" children are known and both are attending certified schools.

Two Deaf children are known. Both are attending special schools.

NURSERY SCHOOLS, SECONDARY SCHOOLS AND CONTINUATION SCHOOLS.

There are no Nursery Schools in Spenborough, but children are admitted to the elementary schools on attaining their third birthday. The Education Authority carries on no work in connection with Secondary or Continuation Schools.

EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN.

The bye-laws regulating the employment of children and young persons came into force in July, 1920.

The bye-laws prohibit the employment of children (i.e., persons under 14 years of age) in the following occupations: as lather boy or girl; in kitchens or hotels, restaurants, etc.; in public billiards rooms; on licensed premises; selling programmes or refreshments in theatres, etc.; collecting or sorting rags and refuse; as attendants in shooting galleries and similar premises, or in any slaughter house.

No child under 12 years of age may be employed in any capacity whatever.

A child between 12 and 14 years of age may be employed:—

- (a) On school days between 5 p.m. and 7 p.m.
- (b) On week days when school is not open, for not more than five hours between 9 a.m. and 7 p.m., and for not more than sixteen hours in any week.
- (c) For the sale and delivery of milk and newspapers.

A child between 12 and 14 years of age may be employed for these purposes for one hour, 7 to 8 p.m. on week days, and for not more than two hours between 7-0 and 10-0 in the forenoon.

Before a child between 12 and 14 can receive a licence to carry on the occupation of delivering milk or newspapers, a certificate has to be obtained from the School Medical Officer to the effect that this work will not be prejudicial to his health or education.

During 1937 there were ninety-two applications for certificates, all from boys. It was not found necessary to refuse a certificate in any case, though one boy was referred for a second examination.

BOARD OF EDUCATION STATISTICAL TABLES.

Table I.

RETURN OF MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

(A)—Routine Medical Inspections.

Entrants... ..	440
Second Age Group	386
Third Age Group	334
Total	1160
Other Routine Inspections	135
Grand Total	1295

(B)—Other Inspections.

Number of Special Inspections ...	393
Number of Re-Inspections... ..	363
Total	756

(C)—Children found to require Treatment.

Number of individual children found at Routine Medical Inspection to require Treatment (excluding Defects of Nutrition, Uncleanliness and Dental Diseases).

Group.	For defective vision (excluding squint).	For all other conditions recorded in Table II A.	Total.
Entrants	—	80	80
Second Age Group... ..	46	45	91
Third Age Group	23	33	56
Total (Prescribed Groups)	69	158	227
Other Routine Inspections	11	11	22
Grand Total	80	169	249

Table II.

(A)—RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND IN THE COURSE OF MEDICAL INSPECTION IN 1936

DEFECT or DISEASE	ROUTINE		SPECIALS	
	Treat-ment	Obser-vation	Treat-ment	Obser-vation
SKIN:				
Ringworm, Scalp	—	—	—	—
Ringworm, Body.....	—	—	—	—
Scabies	1	—	5	—
Impetigo	10	—	9	—
Other Diseases (Non T.B.) ...	21	16	16	—

Table II (a)—continued.

DEFECT or DISEASE	ROUTINE		SPECIALS	
	Treat- ment	Obser- vation	Treat- ment	Obser- vation
EYE:				
Blepharitis	4	—	—	—
Conjunctivitis	2	—	4	—
Keratitis	—	—	—	—
Corneal Opacities	2	—	—	—
Other Conditions	4	3	—	—
Def. Vision (excluding Squint)	8	219	82	121
Squint	10	1	16	4
EAR:				
Defective Hearing	—	3	1	2
Otitis Media	14	—	6	—
Other Ear Disease	14	4	5	—
NOSE AND THROAT:				
Chronic Tonsillitis only	9	235	3	3
Adenoids only	1	4	5	1
Chronic Tonsillitis and Adenoids	—	1	—	—
Other Conditions	11	10	6	2
ENL. CERVICAL GLANDS				
(Non T.B.)	1	10	3	1
DEFECTIVE SPEECH	1	5	—	—
HEART AND CIRCULATION:				
Heart Disease (Organic)	1	31	1	6
Heart Disease (Functional)	4	14	1	7
Anæmia	4	8	2	1
LUNGS:				
Bronchitis	1	—	1	—
Other Non T.B. Diseases	20	42	5	6
TUBERCULOSIS.				
Pulmonary—Definite	1	—	1	—
Suspected	—	—	—	—
Non-Pulmonary—Glands	1	—	2	8
Bone & Joints	1	—	—	5
Skin	—	—	—	—
Other Forms	2	—	—	—
NERVOUS SYSTEM:				
Epilepsy	1	—	—	4
Chorea	1	1	1	2
Other Conditions	7	6	4	3
DEFORMITIES:				
Rickets	1	126	1	—
Spinal Curvature	—	—	—	—
Other Deformities	7	3	9	2
OTHER DEFECTS & DISEASES	32	19	34	117
Total number of defects ...	269	731	223	296

Table II.**(B)—Classification of the Nutrition of Children Inspected During the Year in the Routine Age Groups.**

Age Groups		Number of (Excellent)			(Normal)		(Slightly subnormal)		(Bad)						
		Children		No.	%	No.		%	No.		%				
		Inspected													
Entrants	440	.....	2	·45	.....	428	96·87	.....	9	2·45	.....	1	·23
Second Age Group		386	.....	3	·77	.....	276	97·42	.....	7	1·81	.....	—	—
Third Age Group		334	.....	8	2·4	.....	321	96·11	.....	5	1·49	.....	—	—
Other Routine Inspections			135	.....	—	—	.....	129	95·56	.....	6	4·44	.....	—	—
TOTAL			1295		13	1·0		1254	96·84		27	2·08		1	·08

Return of all Exceptional Children in the Area

Table III	At Certified Schools	At Public Elementary Schools	At Other Institutions	At no School or Institution	TOTAL
Blind Children	2			1	3
Partially Blind Children	2	2			4
Deaf Children	2				2
Partially Deaf Children		3			3
Mentally Defective Children		23		4	27
Epileptic Children		4		4	8
Physically Defective Children—					
A—Tuberculosis Children :					
1. Children with Pulmonary Tuberculosis		1	2	1	4
2. Children with Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis		20	1	5	26
B—Delicate Children		26		4	30
C—Crippled Children		9	1	6	16
D—Children with Heart Disease		4	1		5

Children Suffering from Multiple Defects ... Nil

Table IV.**RETURN OF DEFECTS TREATED DURING
THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1936.****Group I.—Minor Ailments**

(excluding Uncleanliness, for which see Group V.).

DISEASE or DEFECTS	Number of Defects treated or under treatment during the year		
	Under the Authority's	Other- wise	Total
Ringworm, Scalp... ..	—	—	—
Ringworm, Body	—	—	—
Scabies	6	—	6
Impetigo	51	—	51
Other Skin Disease	193	—	193
MINOR EYE DEFECTS	117	—	117
External and Other, but exclud- ing cases falling in Group II.)			
MINOR EAR DEFECTS	88	—	88
MISCELLANEOUS... ..	945	—	945
(e.g) Minor Injuries, Bruises, Chilblains, Sores, etc.)			
Total	1400	—	1400

Table IV. Group II.—Defective Vision and Squint(excluding Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor
Ailments, Group I.).

DISEASE or DEFECTS	Number of Defects dealt with		
	Under the Authority's Scheme	Other- wise	Total
Errors of Refraction—including Squint (Operations for Squint not included)... ..	145	4	149
Other Defect or Disease of the Eyes	1	1	2
Total	146	5	151

Total number of children for whom Spectacles were
prescribed:

(a) Under the Authority's Scheme 102

(b) Otherwise... .. 4

Total number of children who obtained or received
Spectacles:

(a) Under the Authority's Scheme 92

(b) Otherwise 4

Table IV. Group III.—Treatment of Defects of Nose and Throat

Received Operative Treatment:

Under the Authority's Scheme, in Clinic or Hospital	1
By Private Practitioner or Hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme	44
Received other forms of Treatment	9
Total	54

Group IV.—Orthopædic and Postural Defects.

Number of children treated.

Non-residential treatment at an orthopædic clinic..	29
Treatment at Residential Institution with Education	1

Table V. DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT.

1. Number of children—

(a) Inspected by the Dentist:

5 and under—

Routine Age Groups	559	}	Total ...	4312
	6	467			
	7	380			
	8	543			
	9	549			
	10	513			
	11	413			
	12	408			
	13	344			
	14	136			

(b) Specials 131

(c) TOTAL (Routine and Specials) ——— 4443

2. Number found to require treatment 3999

3. Number actually treated 1777

4. Attendances made by children for treatment ... 2709

5. Half-days devoted to:—

Inspection 38

Treatment 367

Total 405

6. Fillings Permanent Teeth... .. 1651

Temporary Teeth... .. 474

Total... .. 2125

7. Extractions...	Permanent Teeth... ..	456	
	Temporary Teeth... ..	2464	
	Total... ..	—	2920
8. Administrations of general anæsthetic for Extractions			10
9. Other Operations—			
	Permanent Teeth... ..	330	
	Temporary Teeth.....	846	
	Total... ..	—	1176

Table VI.

UNCLEANLINESS AND VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.

(i) Average number of visits per school made during the year by the School Nurses ...	4
(ii.) Total number of examinations of children in the Schools by School Nurses	11,421
(iii.) Number of individual children found un- clean	469
(iv.) Number of individual children cleansed under Section 87 (2) and (3) of the Education Act, 1921	Nil.
(v.) Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken:—	
(a) Under the Education Act, 1921	Nil.
(b) Under School Attendance Bye- laws	Nil.

Mental Deficiency (Notification of Children) Regulations, 1928.

STATEMENT OF THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1936, BY THE LOCAL EDUCATION AUTHORITY TO THE LOCAL MENTAL DEFICIENCY AUTHORITY.

Children incapable of receiving benefit or further
benefit from instruction in a Special School:

(a) Idiots	—
(b) Imbeciles	1
(c) Others	1

I N D E X

	PAGE		PAGE
Attendance Officers— Co-operation with ...	2	Nursery Schools ...	36
Baths, School ...	32	Nurses, Duties of...	23
Blind and Deaf Children ...	36	Open Air Education ...	31
Chicken Pox ...	30	Parents, Co-operation of ...	33
Clothing and Footgear ...	8	Physical Training...	32
Crippling Defects...	18	Refraction, Errors ...	22
Defective Vision ...	16	Ringworm ...	15, 23
Dental Defects ...	17	Scarlet Fever ...	27
Dental Officer's Report ...	25	School Hygiene ...	7
Diphtheria ...	29	Skin Disease ...	14
Ear Disease ...	15	Squint ...	16
Education Committee ...	2	Staff of School Medical Service ...	2
Eye Disease, External ...	15	Statistical Tables ...	38
Heights and Weights ...	19	Teachers, Co-operation of ...	34
Infectious Disease ...	27	Tonsils, Enlarged, and Adenoids ...	14, 22
Inspection, Ages at ...	7	Treatment ...	20
Cleanliness ...	9	„ by Nurses in School	24
Routine Medical, ...	7	Tuberculosis ...	14
Juvenile Employment ...	36	Uncleanliness ...	8
Malnutrition ...	8	Vaccination ...	20
Meals, Provision of ...	32	Vision Testing ...	17
Measles ...	29	Voluntary Societies, Co-operation of ...	35
Milk, Supply of ...	32	Whooping Cough...	29
Minor Ailments ...	14		
Mumps ...	30		

